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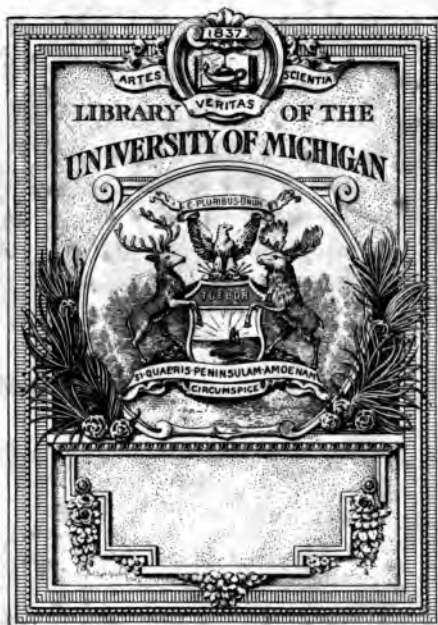
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Chap. 189.

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73

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HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS

IN

BERKS, BUCKS, AND OXFORDSHIRE.

INCLUDING A PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF
THE UNIVERSITY AND CITY OF OXFORD,
AND THE DESCENT OF THE THAMES TO MAIDENHEAD
AND WINDSOR.

WITH A TRAVELLING MAP AND PLANS.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.
1860.

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LONDON : PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET,
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P R E F A C E.

THE HANDBOOK for BERKSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, and OXFORDSHIRE, especially that part of it which regards the City and University of Oxford, has been drawn up, as far as possible, from a minute personal survey and experience of the points which it contains. The Editor however is conscious that errors and omissions must exist, and will be thankful if those who may detect them will forward any corrections or additions to the care of MR. MURRAY, 50, Albemarle Street.

CONTENTS.

SECTION I.—BERKSHIRE.

INTRODUCTION	1
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

ROUTES.

*** The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

Route	Page	Route	Page
1 From <i>Windsor</i> [<i>the Castle—the Great Park</i>], through <i>the Forest</i> , by <i>Sunninghill</i> , <i>Bracknel</i> , and <i>Wokingham</i> , to <i>Reading</i>	8	<i>Welford</i> , <i>Little and Great Shefford</i> , and <i>East Garston</i>	56
2 <i>Windsor</i> to <i>Reading</i> , by <i>Winkfield</i> , <i>Warfield</i> , and <i>Binfield</i>	27	6 <i>Newbury</i> to <i>Oxford</i> , by <i>East Ilsley</i> and <i>Abingdon</i>	57
3 <i>Maidenhead</i> to <i>Shrivenham</i> , by <i>Reading</i> [<i>Wallingford</i>], <i>Didcot</i> [<i>Wantage</i>], and <i>the Vale of the White Horse</i> .— <i>Great Western Railway</i>	28	7 <i>Oxford</i> to <i>Highworth</i> , by <i>Cumnor</i> , <i>Besilsleigh</i> , <i>Fyfield</i> , <i>Pusey</i> , <i>Buckland</i> , <i>Faringdon</i> , and <i>Coleshill</i>	66
4 <i>Reading</i> to <i>Hungerford</i> , by <i>Newbury</i> .— <i>Branch of Great Western Railway</i>	45	8 <i>The Thames</i> —from <i>Goring</i> to <i>Maidenhead</i> , by <i>Pangbourne</i> , <i>Mapledurham</i> , <i>Caversham</i> , <i>Sunning</i> , <i>Shiplake</i> , <i>Wargrave</i> , <i>Henley</i> , <i>Medmenham</i> , <i>Hurley</i> , <i>Bisham</i> , <i>Marlow</i> , <i>Hed- sor</i> , <i>Cookham</i> [<i>Dropmore</i>], and <i>Cliefden</i>	71
5 <i>Newbury</i> to <i>Lambourn</i> , by			

SECTION II.—BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

INTRODUCTION	87
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

ROUTES.

*** The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

Route	Page	Route	Page
9 <i>Langley</i> to <i>Maidenhead</i> , by <i>Slough</i> and <i>Eton</i> .— <i>Great Western Railway</i>	92	<i>Latimers</i>], <i>Wendover</i> , <i>Aylesbury</i> , <i>Winslow</i> , and <i>Buckingham</i>	107
10 <i>London</i> to <i>High Wycombe</i> , by <i>Uxbridge</i> and <i>Beaconsfield</i> : part of the old road from <i>London</i> to <i>Oxford</i> and <i>Birmingham</i>	101	12 <i>Aylesbury</i> to <i>Bicester</i>	123
11 <i>London</i> to <i>Brackley</i> , by <i>Chalfont</i> . <i>Amersham</i> [<i>Chenies</i> ,		13 <i>Tring</i> to <i>Road</i> .— <i>London and Birmingham Railway</i>	125
		14 <i>Bletchley</i> to <i>Bicester</i> , by <i>Whaddon Chase</i> and <i>Claydon</i> .— <i>Branch Railway from Bletchley</i> to <i>Oxford</i>	132

SECTION III.—OXFORDSHIRE.

INTRODUCTION	133
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

ROUTES.

. The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

Route	Page	Route	Page
15 Didcot to <i>Cropredy</i> , by OXFORD [<i>Ifley</i>], <i>Godstow</i> , [<i>Shotover</i>], [<i>Cuddesden</i>], [<i>Stanton Harcourt</i>], and <i>Banbury</i> .—Great Western Railway	141	18 High Wycombe to Oxford, by <i>Watlington</i> and <i>Chalgrove Field</i>	213
16 Oxford to <i>Bicester</i> .—North-West Railway, Branch from Oxford to <i>Bletchley</i>	197	19 Henley to <i>Burford</i> , by <i>Dorchester</i> , <i>Nuneham</i> , Oxford, and <i>Witney</i> : part of the great road from London to Cheltenham	215
17 High Wycombe to <i>Chipping Norton</i> , by Oxford and <i>Woodstock</i> [<i>BLENHEIM</i>]	198	20 Oxford to <i>Addlestrop</i> , by <i>Charlbury</i> and <i>Wychwood Forest</i> .—Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway . . .	226

INDEX	231
-------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

MAPS AND PLANS.

WINDSOR CASTLE	..	..	..	..	..	..	to face page	8
OXFORD	..	..	..	..	..	..	„	142
TRAVELLING MAP OF BERKS, BUCKS, AND OXFORDSHIRE	..						at the end.	

HANDBOOK

FOR

BERKS, BUCKS, AND OXFORDSHIRE.

SECTION I.

BERKSHIRE.

INTRODUCTION.

Page	Page
Boundaries and Divisions 1	Views 7
Rivers and Canals 2	Country Seats 7
Climate, Agriculture, Manufactures 3	Picture Galleries 7
History 4	Dialect 7
Antiquities 5	Skeleton Tour 8

BERKSHIRE, written Barkshire by Leland, and pronounced so by the natives, was called by the Latin writers Bercheria, and by the Saxon chroniclers Berroc-syre, which name Asser derives from a Box-wood, called Berroc (mentioned in a charter of John as the property of the nuns of Ambresbury); but others declare it to have signified a bare or disembarked oak (which Beroke means), beneath which councils were held by the natives in early times. The name, whatever be its meaning, seems to be included in that of Bi-broc-i, given by Cæsar, *Bell. Gall.*, to the inhabitants of this district, for bark and broc are the same.

Berkshire is bounded on the N. by Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, and Bucks, from which it is separated by the Thames; on the W. by Wilts; on the S.W. by Hants; on the S.E. by Surrey. The extreme length of the county (from Lambourne to Windsor) is 43 m., and its extreme breadth (from the Thames N.W. of Oxford to the border of Hants below Newbury) 31 m. Its area is given at 758 square miles.

“Berkshire naturally divides itself into 4 districts. Of these the northern district is the Vale of the White Horse, and the southern the Vale of the Kennet. Each of these two vales runs E. and W., and between them the hill district, a high chalk range, the continuation of the Wiltshire downs, runs right across the county, from Lambourne and Ashdown in the W. to Streatley in the E. At Streatley the

Thames runs through this range of hills, which, after the temporary interruption, march away N.E. through Oxfordshire and Bucks; but, as though unwilling to let the queen of English rivers slip entirely away from them, the hills recross the stream into Berks at Wargrave, and from that point to Maidenhead confine the Thames again in a chalky embrace. This small outlying district of chalk forms the N. part of the 4th or forest district of Berks. The remainder of the forest district, comprising the towns of Windsor and Wokingham, Windsor Forest, Ascot Heath, and the neighbouring villages, is separated from the Vale of Kennet by the river Loddon.

"Each of these 4 districts has its distinct characteristics, and each has minor divisions of its own. Thus, the Vale of the White Horse comprises on its N. side a low range of secondary hills, which run along the bank of the Thames from Faringdon to Radley, and include Cumnor and Bagley Wood. These are sand-hills, while the soil of the vale proper is for the most part a strong grey loam, mixed with large quantities of vegetable mould.

"The hill district includes the high chalk range, of which the White Horse Hill and Cuckhamsley Hill (or Scuchamore Knob) are the highest points. Towards the N. the range is bold, and the descent into the vale steep, and the hills are indented with a number of little 'coons' or meadows clothed with copse, while towards the S. it melts gradually away into the Vale of the Kennet. There is very little soil over the chalk on the higher part of the range, which is still used chiefly for sheep-walks.

"The Vale of the Kennet comprises the low lands which lie along its banks, and include clays, gravels, and a large and deep bed of peat; and the strip of wild and high sandy common land which runs along the extreme S. boundary of the county.

"The Forest district comprises the small outlying piece of the chalk range which has strayed back over the Thames at Wargrave, and leaves it at Maidenhead, and the forest proper, which, however, includes towns and flourishing hamlets, and many hundred acres of good enclosed land, from Windsor to the Loddon. Formerly the forest stretched right away up the Vale of Kennet to Hungerford, some 40 miles as the crow flies."—*Quarterly Review*, No. 211. Leland speaks of a "great warfeage of timbre and fier wood at the W. ende of the (Maidenhead) bridge; and this wood," he adds, "cummith out of Barkshir, and the great woddis of the forest of Windelesore and the greate Frithe." Windsor Castle stands on a solitary mass of chalk, surrounded by stiff clay.

Rivers and Canals.—The Thames, which becomes the boundary of the county near Lechlade, in a circuitous course of 105 m., divides it from part of Gloucestershire, all Oxfordshire, and part of Bucks. The lower part of its course is extremely beautiful, and the river itself—

"Though deep, yet clear; though gentle, yet not dull;
Strong without rage; without o'erflowing, full."—*Denham*.

At Abingdon it receives the *Ock*, which rises near Uffington, and during its course of 20 m. has many tributaries. The pike in this

river are esteemed remarkably fine. In the parish of Sonning it is joined by

"The Kennet swift, for silver eels renown'd" (*Pope*),

which, rising in Wilts, enters Berkshire near Hungerford, and, flowing E. for 30 m., receives—1, near Avington, the *Lambourne*, which rises in the chalk-hills above the town of that name, and has a course of 15 m. before it joins the Thames; 2, near Aldermaston, the *Enburn*, which rises near Inkpen, and flows E. for 17 m. Both the Kennet and the Lambourne are good fishing-streams, and produce trout, pike, barbel, eels, crayfish, perch, chub, roach, and dace. The trout of the Kennet are of great size; those of the Lambourne are of paler colour and not so much esteemed. The Kennet is made navigable from Newbury to the Thames, a distance by the stream of 20 m. Between Shiplake and Wargrave—

"The Loddon slow, with verdant alders crown'd" (*Pope*)

is united to the Thames. It rises near Aldershot in Hampshire, from which for 7 m. it forms a boundary, and afterwards flows for 12 m. within the county, passing through Hurst Park, and receiving the Emme brook on the way. Berkshire has two canals: 1, the *Wilts and Berks Canal*, which commences in the river Thames just below Abingdon, and is carried through the Vale of the White Horse, past Wantage, into Wiltshire; 2, the *Kennet and Avon Canal*, which commences at Newbury, forming a continuation of the river Kennet navigation, and passes up the Vale of Kennet by Hungerford into Wiltshire.

Climate, Agriculture, Manufactures.—The climate of Berks is one of the healthiest in England. The chalk-hills in the W. are remarkable for their invigorating air, and the vales, having pure streams running through them, are considered no less healthy. Agriculture has attained only a moderate degree of perfection in Berks. In the rich soil of the vales great crops of corn are obtained with slight trouble, which makes careless farmers. The county abounds in yeomen, who cultivate small farms of 40, 50, or 80 acres, and prefer their established ways to the introduction of modern improvements. Jethro Tull, the famous agriculturist, introduced the practice of drilling at Prosperous Farm near Shalbourn, and professional drillmen now obtain a livelihood by going from place to place and letting out a drilling-machine to farmers who cannot afford one of their own. A valuable manure for clover is obtained by converting into ashes a substratum of a species of peat, of compact vegetable matter, by which the meadows on the Kennet, near Newbury, are underlaid. The country near Reading abounds in market-gardens, and the banks and low islands of the Thames are frequently cultivated as osier-beds, and are found exceedingly profitable.

Berkshire is celebrated for its pigs. The true breed is black with white spots, but some are quite white; their snouts are short, jaws thick, and their ears stand up. The Berkshire sheep, called the *Not*, is now almost superseded. The manufactures of Berks are paper and blankets, and, at Reading, Huntley and Palmer's "Reading biscuits."

History.—The earliest inhabitants of Berkshire are supposed to have been the Atrebrates in the N., the Bibroces in the S.E., and the Segontiaci in the S.W. After the Roman invasion Berkshire was included in the province of Britannia Prima, and the Roman station of Spinæ was founded on the present site of Speenhamland near Newbury. Other Roman stations are said, but with less certainty, to have existed in the county: Bibracte is fixed by Whittaker at Bray; Pontes, by Horsley (Britannia Romana), at Datchet, though it was more probably at Staines; and Camden thought that Caleva was identical with Wallingford, though it is more generally supposed to have been the same as Silchester.

After the Saxon invasion Berks was included in the kingdom of the W. Saxons. That part of the county extending from the Icknield Street to the Thames was wrested from Kinewulf, king of the W. Saxons, by Offa, king of Mercia. Berks formed part of the kingdom of Wessex under Ethelwulf, who lived in the palace at Wantage, where his youngest son, the immortal Alfred, was born. In the reign of Ethelred I., the elder brother and immediate predecessor of Alfred (A.D. 871), the Danes invaded Berks and took Reading. Here they were attacked by the W. Saxons; in the first engagement the Danes were defeated, but in the second they repulsed their assailants. Four days afterwards a great battle was fought at Æscendune (Ash-tree Hill), in which the Danish king, Bøgseeg, was slain, and his armies defeated and driven back to Reading by Ethelred and Alfred. It is supposed that the celebrated White Horse was cut in the downs to commemorate this victory. The site of the battle is claimed by several different places in the county, but there can be little doubt that the real battle-field was on the downs near Ashdown. Turner, in his 'History of the Anglo-Saxons,' thinks that Merantune, where the Saxons were soon afterwards defeated, and where Ethelred was mortally wounded, was Moreton, near Wallingford. Lysons identifies the Ethandane, where Alfred gained the victory which restored him to his throne, with Eddington, near Hungerford; but this is contrary to the general opinion, which supposes it to be Eddington, near Westbury, in Wilts. Berkshire was repeatedly ravaged by the Danes, and both Reading and Wallingford were burnt by them in 1006.

Very few places in Berks are remarkable as the scene of historical events after the Conquest. At Wallingford the Conqueror received the submission of Archbp. Stigand and the principal Saxon nobles, before marching to London. There a castle was built by his chief captain in these parts, Robert D'Oyley, where the fugitive Matilda found a secure refuge in 1141, and there in 1153 the convention of Wallingford declared that Stephen was to reign for life, but that Henry II. was to be his successor.

Windsor, which has given Berks the name of "the Royal County," was a residence of the sovereigns before the existing Castle was built: *William the Conqueror*, *William Rufus*, and *Henry I.* kept their *Christmas at Windsor*. *Henry I.* was married there to his second queen, *Adeliza of Louvaine*. In 1263 it was seized by *Simon de Montfort*.

In 1340 Edward III. built the Castle, and there in 1349 he founded the Order of the Garter. In the Castle chapel Henry VI., Edward IV., Jane Seymour, Henry VIII., and Charles I. are buried, with almost all the royal family since the time of George III.

Reading Abbey was founded by Henry I., who is buried within its walls, with his queen Adeliza, his daughter Matilda, and Prince William, son of Henry II. There in 1359 John of Gaunt was married to Blanche Plantagenet; and there also, in 1464, the marriage of Edward IV. to Elizabeth Woodville was first proclaimed in public. In the town of Reading Archbp. Laud was born, 1578.

Faringdon Castle, founded by Robert, natural brother of the Empress Matilda, was totally destroyed by Stephen. Hampstead Marshall is interesting from the long and celebrated line of Earls Marshal who have possessed it. Radcot Bridge was the scene of the defeat of Vere Earl of Oxford (1389) in the reign of Richard II. Bisham contained the graves of Richard Neville, the Kingmaker, and his brother, Lord Montague (1470), and of Edward Plantagenet, son of the Duke of Clarence. Cumnor was celebrated by the tragedy of Amy Robsart. Ruscombe was the birthplace of the famous Penn. Besilsleigh was the home of the Speaker Lenthall. Caversham Bridge was the scene of a skirmish (1643), and Newbury of two great battles (1643-44), during the civil wars, when Donnington Castle became illustrious by its brave defence against the Parliamentarians. Lady Place at Hurley was the spot where the coming of William of Orange was arranged, and the slight skirmishes at Twyford and Reading were the only signs of opposition to his mounting the throne,

Antiquities.—Several Roman roads crossed the county; that from Glevum (Gloucester) to Londinium entered Berks near Lambourn, and is still traceable as far as Spinæ (Speenhamland). The Icknield Street crossed the county, but it is doubted whether it is represented by "the Ridge Way," which runs along the edge of the chalk range, over E. and W. Isley Downs, Cuckhamsley Hills, &c., or by the road beneath the same hills which is known as the Ickleton Way. Part of the road from Silchester to London was formerly traceable on Bagshot Heath, and was known as "the Devil's Highway." The site of the Roman station of Spinæ is authenticated; the vallum which surrounded Wallingford is still perceptible.

Roman Camps are—Uffington Castle, on the summit of the White Horse Hill; Letcombe or Sagsbury Castle, on Letcombe Downs, and Hardwell Camp. Near Little Coxwell, and on Bagshot Heath, are also remains of camps. Cherbury Camp, between Abingdon and Faringdon, and the camp on Sinodun Hill, near Wittenham, are either British or Roman. There are also circular camps near Ashdown Park (called Alfred's Castle), and on Badbury Hill, near Faringdon, of which the origin is doubtful.

The bleak chalk downs N. of Lambourne abound in curious ancient *Barrows*, of which "the Seven Barrows" and "Wayland Smith's Cave" are the most remarkable. At Kingston Lyle is the celebrated *Blowin*

Stone, with its 3 holes at the top, through which, if a person blows, the sound may be heard for 6 miles distant. But the most remarkable object in the county is the White Horse cut in the face of the downs below Uffington Castle.

Of ancient *Castles* there are scarcely any *remains* except at Windsor. A fragment of a tower and an oriel window is left of Wallingford; at Donnington there is a picturesque gateway; the very sites of Reading, Newbury, Faringdon, and Brightwell are unknown; of Aldworth Castle only the foundations remain.

The oldest *Manor-house* in Berks is that of Appleton near Abingdon, supposed to be temp. Henry II. The manor-house of Cumnor is destroyed. There are remains of old houses at Wytham, Sutton Courtenay near Abingdon, and Little Shefford near Newbury. East Hendred retains its ancient domestic chapel of the 13th centy. The beautiful old timber mansion of the Norreys family at Ockwells, and Ufton Court, the home of Pope's Arabella Fermor, are now only farmhouses. Shaw House, near Newbury, is a fine specimen of the Elizabethan period.

The principal *Monastic Remains* are those of Abingdon, where the gateway and several rooms are still standing; and of Reading, where the gatehouse, the abbey mills, and shapeless fragments of the church and other parts remain. The ancient doorway and tower of Bisham are still to be seen, built into the beautiful but later manor-house. Small traces are left of the Grey Friars at Reading, and of the Benedictine Monastery at Hurley.

Among the *Churches* of the county, Avington deserves the first place, as an interesting and perfect specimen of very early Norman. The little church of Padworth, though much injured, presents some curious Norm. details. Uffington is a remarkable and perfect E. E. church. The beautiful church of Shottesbrooke is a perfect specimen of Dec. St. George's Chapel at Windsor is a fine example of Perp. The mixed churches of Wantage, Faringdon, Bisham, and Sonning are remarkable. Welford and Great Shefford possess ancient round towers, and Tidmarsh is remarkable for its half-hexagonal chancel. To the antiquarian and ecclesiologist the following church details will be interesting:—

Ponts.—Avington, Clewer, Enbourne, Sulhampstead Abbots, Bright Waltham, Woolhampton, Purley, Great Shefford, Sutton Courtenay, Welford, Childrey (lead), Englefield, Shottesbrooke.

Talls.—Faringdon, Welford, Uffington, Sparsholt, Warfield.

Tombs.—The 8 altar-tombs at Aldworth; the cross-legged effigies at Sparsholt, Childrey, Englefield, Inkpen, and Basildon; tomb of Sir William Trussel (1337) at Shottesbrooke; of John de Blewbury, a priest (1372), at Shillingford; of the abbots of Abingdon, Cumnor; of King Edw. IV., with a Gothic screen of gilt iron, Windsor; of Sir John Golafré (1452), and Lady Gordon (1527), Fyfield; of Sir T. Englefield (1513), Englefield; of Sir G. Forster (1526), Aldermaston; of John Baptist de Castillon (1594), and of his daughter (1603), Speen.

Brasses.—John Isbury, Lambourn; Sir Ivo Fitzwarren, Wantage; William Fynderne (1449), Childrey; Anne, Duchess of Exeter, sister

of Edward IV., and her second husband, Sir T. St. Leger (1475), Windsor.*

The *Views* from the White Horse Hill, from Faringdon Clump, and from Sinodun Hill near Wittenham, command a wide extent of country. That of Oxford from Bagley Wood is of great beauty.

Of *Country Seats* the most remarkable are Ashdown, high up among the bleak downs; Coleshill, as a good and perfect specimen of the architecture of Inigo Jones; Pusey, from having been given to the family of that name in the time of Canute; Wytham Abbey, with its beautiful woods; and the rival modern houses of Beckett and Aldermaston, the latter of which is also remarkable for its wild park and its fine old timber. The park of Bear Wood is beautiful.

The best collections of *Pictures*, after Windsor, are the galleries of Mr. Walter at Bear Wood, and of Mr. Morrison at Basilden; Coleshill, Buckland, and Beckett also contain a few good pictures.

The *Angler* will find employment on the banks of the Thames and of the Kennet, especially near Hungerford, mentioned even by Evelyn as "celebrated for its troutes." The *Artist* will be chiefly interested in the distant views of Windsor, in the older parts of the Forest, and in the scenery on the banks of the Thames, especially near Bisham. Picturesque bits may also be found at Abingdon, Donnington Castle, Little Sheffield, and among the hills near Aldermaston.

The stranger will probably be puzzled at first by the peculiarities of the Berkshire dialect, which are more marked than those of almost any other county, especially its constant substitution of *z* for *s*, and *v* for *f*. *Him* and *her* also invariably take the place of *he* and *she*, and *this* and *that* are pronounced *thik* and *thak*. The following words may illustrate some of the other changes of language which a traveller must be prepared for in this county:—

bungersome	clumsy.	to tole awoye	to entice away.
gosmechicks	goslings.	he do chapse ol	he scolds me.
anenst	nearly.	to scawt	to labour.
figgs	raisins.	in great spout	in great spirits.
deedy	notable.	I told him so smack to	I told him so to
frow	brittle.	his head.	his face.

Natives of Berks are proud of their dialect as well as their county, and have their own poetry, of which the following is a specimen:—

"Throo aall the waarld owld Gaarge would bwoast,
Commend me to merry owld England mwaoast;
While vools gwoes praating vur and nigh,
We stwops at whum, my dog and I."

The following skeleton tour would comprise all the chief objects of interest in the county:—

* In the dearth of topographical works on Berkshire our readers will thank us for mentioning the 'Address on the Archaeology of Berkshire; by the Earl of Cornwall, *March, 1859, an interesting popular essay.*

1. *Windsor*, by the Forest, Binfield, and Bear Wood, to Reading.
2. *Reading*, Abbey and Churches. By rail to Aldermaston and Ufton Court, thence to Newbury. Shaw House and Donnington Castle.
3. By Avington, Wickham, Welford, and the Sheffords to Lambourn.
4. By the Seven Barrows, Wayland Smith's Cave, the White Horse, Uffington Church, and Sparsholt, to Wantage. By starting very early these two days might be combined in one.
5. Faringdon, Pusey, Fyfield, Besilsleigh, Appleton, Cumnor, to Abingdon.
6. Sutton Courtenay, Wittenham, Wallingford, Cholsey, Aldworth, Basil-den, Pangbourne.
7. Rail to Twyford—Sonning, Wargrave, Hurley, Bisham (or by water down the Thames, a most delightful excursion, see Rte. 8) to Maidenhead, whence see Bray, Ockwells, Shottesbrooke.

ROUTES.

. The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE.	PAGE
1 From <i>Windsor</i> [<i>the Castle—the Great Park</i>], through the Forest, by <i>Sunninghill</i> , <i>Bracknel</i> , and <i>Wokingham</i> , to Reading	8	<i>Welford</i> , <i>Little and Great Shefford</i> , and <i>East Garston</i> . .	56
2 Windsor to Reading, by <i>Winkfield</i> , <i>Warfield</i> , and <i>Binfield</i>	27	6 Newbury to Oxford, by <i>East Ilsley</i> and <i>Abingdon</i>	57
3 Maidenhead to <i>Shrivenham</i> , by Reading [<i>Wallingford</i>], <i>Didcot</i> [<i>Wantage</i>], and the <i>Vale of the White Horse</i> . Great Western Railway . .	28	7 Oxford to Highworth, by <i>Cumnor</i> , <i>Besitsleigh</i> , <i>Fyfield</i> , <i>Pusey</i> , <i>Buckland</i> , <i>Faringdon</i> , and <i>Colchill</i>	66
4 Reading to <i>Hungerford</i> , by <i>Newbury</i> . Branch of Great Western Railway	45	8 The Thames— from <i>Goring</i> to Maidenhead, by <i>Pangbourne</i> , <i>Mapledurham</i> , <i>Caversham</i> , <i>Sunning</i> , <i>Shiplake</i> , <i>Wargrave</i> , <i>Henley</i> , <i>Medmenham</i> , <i>Hurley</i> , <i>Bisham</i> , <i>Marlow</i> , <i>Hed-sor</i> , <i>Cookham</i> [<i>Dropmore</i>], and <i>Chiefden</i>	71
5 Newbury to <i>Lambourn</i> , by			

ROUTE 1.

WINDSOR—THE CASTLE—THE GREAT PARK—THROUGH THE FOREST, BY SUNNINGHILL, BRACKNEL, AND WOKINGHAM, TO READING.

Windsor is reached from London in 1 h. by Great Western Railway and a branch line from Slough; also by South-Western Railway from Waterloo Stat. via Richmond, which in the latter part of its course skirts the Home Park, by the margin of the

Thames, with fine views of the Castle. Omnibuses and carriages await the arrival of trains at both stations.

† The Hundred Steps are the shortest approach to the Castle from the South-Western Railway for pedestrians, though the hardest climb.

WINDSOR. — *Inns*: White Hart; Castle. A borough town of 10,114 Inhab., on the rt. bank of the Thames, 22 m. from London, which owes its celebrity to its Castle and

its beautiful situation on a height overlooking the Thames, the residence of British Sovereigns from the days of the Conqueror.

The town contains little of interest. In the Church is an altarpiece discovered behind the wainscot of St. George's Chapel, where it was probably hidden in the time of the Commonwealth. The Townhall contains some copies from portraits of British Sovereigns. On the N. side of the Market-place is a frightful statue of Queen Anne (1707), who was a great favourite here, with the inscription,—

"Arte tua, sculptor, non est imitabilis Anna;
Annæ vis similem sculpere? Sculpe Deam!"

Near the river, at the foot of the Hundred Steps, on the rt., was a house, destroyed 1860, supposed, with much reason, to have been that which Shakspeare had in his mind, as the House of Mrs. Page, in the 'Merry Wives of Windsor.' This part of the town, then called "Windsor Underwre," was formerly the property of the Abbot of Reading. The only memorial of this possession is in the Abbot's Pile, a name still retained for a wooden pile on the Eton bank of the Thames, near Tangier Mill (*Annals of Windsor*). The bridge connecting Windsor with Eton (in Bucks) commands a fine view of the Castle.

A low public-house in Peascod Street, called the *Duke's Head*, derives its name from having been the house of Villiers Duke of Buckingham. Thither Charles II. used to come from the Castle, and thence they used to walk together to Filberts, the house of Nell Gwynne.

Hints for Visitors.—The State Apartments at Windsor Castle are open gratuitously to the public on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Visitors or residents in Windsor may obtain tickets at the Lord Chamberlain's Office, near the Winchester Tower, at the head of the Lower Ward of the Castle. These

are for admission between 11 and 4 from April 1 to Oct. 31; and between 11 and 3 from Nov. 1 to March 31. Tickets may also be obtained in London from Messrs. Cohnaghi, 14, Pall Mall East; Mr. Mitchell, 33, Old Bond Street; and Mr. Wright, 60, Pall Mall. These admit the visitor two hours earlier than those obtained at Windsor, and are available for a week.

The Queen's Private Apartments can only be seen in the absence of the Court, by a special order from the Lord Chamberlain. The Royal Stables and Riding-School may be seen between 1 and 2½ by an order from the Clerk of the Stables. The Round Tower is open on the same days as the Castle, and requires no ticket of admission. 2 hrs. are hardly enough to see well Castle, Terrace, and Chapel.

Service at St. George's Chapel begins at 10½ a.m. and 4½ p.m. On Sundays the morning service begins at 11 a.m. The music is very good.

Persons desirous of seeing Windsor Park and Virginia Water may hire a carriage and join the South-Western Railway on its branch from Windsor to Reading at the Virginia Water Stat., at the further end of the lake. Flies at Windsor are very expensive, costing 3s. the first hour, and 2s. 6d. per hour afterwards.

THE CASTLE, which has given the name of "the Royal County" to Berks, occupies a commanding and isolated eminence of chalk, the only one within a circuit of many miles. On all sides it is a most picturesque object, but the best views are those from the curve of the Great Western Rly. before reaching the Stat., where the broad river, overhung by the old houses of the town, is seen washing the base of the Castle-hill; and from the hill at the end of the Long Avenue, whence the "proud keep of Windsor," as it is described by Burke, is seen rising above a forest of oaks and beeches.

Windsor, then called Windlesora,
B 3

from the winding river, was the property of Edward the Confessor, who, "for the hope of eternal reward, for the remission of all his sins, the sins of his father, mother, and ancestors, and to the praise of God," gave it to the Abbey of Westminster; but William the Conqueror, "being enamoured of the pleasant situation of the place, first built several little lodges in the forest for the convenience of hunting;" and finally, justly estimating the commanding situation of the hill, obtained it in exchange for some lands in Essex, and built a Norm. castle on the height. From his reign, down to the present time, Windsor Castle has been the frequent residence of the Sovereign; and many parliaments and councils of the realm have been held within its walls. Henry I. was married here in 1122 to his 2nd wife Adeliza, when the palsied Archbishop of Canterbury was so furious at the Bishop of Salisbury putting on the crown of the new Queen, "that he could hardly be entreated by the lords to refrain from striking off that of the King." Here Henry II. bewailed the cruelty of his children, and Fabian narrates that he caused an old eagle to be painted on the walls, with four smaller birds, of which three scratched its body, and the fourth pecked out its eyes; and that, when asked its meaning, he said, "These betoken my four sons, which cease not to pursue my death, especially my youngest son John." John took refuge here when he was besieged by his barons, and from hence he went to sign the Magna Charta at Runnymede. Here many children were born to the royal Henrys and Edwards, the greatest of whom, afterwards Edward III. (born Nov. 28, 1312), hence derived his appellation of "Edward of Windsor." In this castle he founded the Order of the Garter in 1349, with the motto, "*Honi soit qui mal y pense*" (lite-

rally, "Shame be to him who thinks evil of it"); and, converting the old fortress into a residence for its officers, and for the dean and canons of the Church, built a new palace above for his own use, under the superintendence of the famous William of Wykeham. Here also he sorrowed over the deathbed of Philippa, the "good Queen of England," a scene which is touchingly described by Froissart. At Windsor too was born King Henry VI., contrary to the wishes of his father, who is said to have prophesied,—

"I, Henry, born at Monmouth,
Shall small time reign, and much get,
But Henry of Windsor shall reign long
and lose all."

The Castle was much altered and modernised by George IV. under Wyatt, who was knighted and changed his name to Wyattville. Wyatt has the merit of having preserved the general features of the ancient fortress, and yet of having adapted it to all the requirements of modern comfort; but the lover of history must regret that the Castle, added to by so many kings, and presenting memorials of so many ages, should be reduced to a state of uniformity. It is at its W. extremity only that the Castle of the 13th centy. has in any degree maintained its original aspect to the present day. The N.W. tower has long been used as a belfry and clockhouse, probably from the time of Edward III. Norden's view (temp. James I.) represents it with its cupola very nearly in its present state. The lower story has remained intact from its foundation. It consists of a chamber 22 ft. in diameter, vaulted on plain massive stone ribs; the walls 12½ ft. thick, with arched recesses terminating in loopholes. The whole is constructed of chalk, faced and arched with freestone, and is an interesting and perfect specimen of the period. It may be useful, before entering upon a ge-

neral description, to note the fragments which remain of the earlier buildings, as constructed under the different Sovereigns, viz. :—

HENRY I., II., and III.

The Garter and Cæsar Towers, the latter of which forms the main bastion of the Castle.

The S. ambulatory of the Dean's Cloister.

The door behind the altar in St. George's Chapel.

The remains of the Domus Regis on the N. of the chapel.

EDWARD III.

The Norm. Gateway adjoining the Keep.

The groining of the Devil's Tower and King John's Tower.

The Dean's Cloister.

EDWARD IV.

St. George's Chapel.

HENRY VII.

The roof of the choir of St. George's.

HENRY VIII.

The outer gateway.

ELIZABETH.

The buildings from the Norm. gate to the entrance of the state apartments.

The commencement of the Terrace.

CHARLES II.

His statue in the Upper Ward.

The *Queen's Entrance* is through the iron gates which lead to King George IV.'s Gateway.

The *Public Entrance* from the town is by an archway called, from its builder, Henry VIII.'s Gateway, flanked by two octagonal towers, and approached by a bridge. It leads into the *Lower Ward*, where, on the rt., is the long low line of houses appropriated to the Military Knights, with the tower of their governor in the centre, beyond which is Henry III.'s Tower, co-

vered with ivy, and opposite to it the Winchester Tower, so called from its founder, William of Wykeham. On the l. is the Salisbury Tower, for the knights on the later foundation; the Garter Tower in ruins; and the gateway leading to the Horseshoe Cloister, containing the houses of the singing men for the chapel, beyond which is the ancient belfry or Cæsar Tower.

Opposite the gateway is *St. George's Chapel*, one of the finest examples of Perp. Gothic, a style existing nowhere but in this country. The earliest chapel on this site was built by Henry I., and dedicated to Edward the Confessor; but it was rebuilt by Edward III., and dedicated to St. George, the patron of his newly-founded Order of the Garter. With the exception of the remains of an earlier wall and an E. E. doorway, the whole of the existing chapel was built in the reign of Edward IV., the stone roof of the choir, which was wooden before, being added by Henry VII. In the interior no portion is left unornamented, the walls being covered with a delicate panelling of Gothic work, and the ribs of the columns spreading over the roof in rich tracery, adorned with painted coats-of-arms of the knights of the Garter, and with the "Rose en soleil," the well-known cognizance of Edward IV. The great W. window occupies the whole end of the nave, and is filled with good ancient stained glass. The side windows, by *West*, are inferior. On the l. is the richly-painted *Beaufort Chapel*, containing two monuments of that family: one, an altar-tomb of 1526, to the founder, Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester; the other, supported by Corinthian pillars, to Henry 1st Duke of Beaufort, 1699. The Marquis of Worcester (1646), author of the 'Century of Inventions,' and the faithful friend of Charles I., for whom he defended Ragland Castle, is buried

here without a monument. Opposite, on the rt., is the *Bread Chapel*, or *Urwick Chapel*, so called from Dean Christopher Urswick, buried here in 1521. Here, in a golden light, is the tasteless monument of the Princess Charlotte, executed by Wyatt, from public subscription, which represents her beatified spirit rising from the couch upon which her corpse is lying.

Beneath the modern organ-screen of artificial stone, the visitor enters the *Choir*, where the richness of the architecture and splendour of the dark carved oak is increased by the effect of the gorgeous helmets, banners, and mantles of the knights of the Garter, suspended over the stalls. Here the installation ceremonies of the Order have been performed ever since their first celebration on St. George's Day, 1349. The stalls of the sovereign and princes of the blood are under the organ; next come those of foreign sovereigns. The brass-plates at the back of the stalls bear the names, arms, and dates of former members, among which are those of the Emperors Sigismund and Charles V., Francis I. of France, and Casimir IV. of Poland, who all belonged to the Order which Denham declares,—

"Foreign kings and emperors esteem
The second honour to their diadem."

Lord Burleigh and the Earl of Surrey are also among the illustrious members commemorated here.

In the centre of the choir is a stone bearing the names of those who are interred in the *Royal Vault* beneath. Here Queen Jane Seymour was buried, 1547, with the epitaph by Bishop Godwin,—

'Phoenix fana jacet nato Phœnice, dolendum
Secula Phœnice nulla tulisse duas.'

Which has been translated by his son Morgan Godwin :—

"Here a Phoenix lieth, whose death
To another Phoenix gave breath,
It is to be lamented much,
The world at once ne'er knew two such,"

Here, in 1547, Henry VIII. was buried by his own desire, "by his true and loving wife Queen Jane." The tomb which he ordered for himself, and which is minutely described by Speed, with its 634 statues and 44 histories, was never put up. Charles I. was buried here "in silence and sorrow, his pall white with the snow which fell upon it in its passage to the chapel, Feb. 7, 1648, without any service, as the governor would not allow Bishop Juxon to bury the king after the service of the Church of England; neither would the lords allow of his way. There was therefore nothing read at the grave, though the bishop's lips were observed to move." Charles II., in order, it is believed, to avoid the expense of a monument, pretended a difficulty in finding a spot which is described by Herbert, Ashmole, and Evelyn; but in 1813 the coffin was discovered and opened. Sir H. Halford, who was present, describes the complexion of the face as dark and discoloured. "The forehead and temples had little or nothing of their muscular substance; the cartilage of the nose was gone; but the left eye, in the moment of first exposure, was open and full, though it vanished almost immediately. The shape of the face was a long oval. The hair was thick at the back of the head, and nearly black; that of his beard was of a reddish brown. On holding up the head, the muscles of the neck had evidently contracted considerably; and the fourth cervical vertebra was cut through transversely, leaving the substance of the divided portions smooth and even—an appearance which could only have been produced by a heavy blow from a very sharp instrument, and which furnished the last proof wanting to identify Charles I."

A few steps further on, below the first step leading to the altar, is the entrance of a second *Royal Vault*

(constructed beneath the Tomb-house by George III.), where are buried,—

Prince Octavius, Prince Alfred, children of George III., removed from Westminster Abbey.

Duchess of Brunswick.

Princess Adelaide, Princess Elizabeth, children of the Duke of Clarence.

Died.

Princess Amelia ..	Nov. 2, 1810
Princess Charlotte ..	Nov. 6, 1817
Queen Charlotte ..	Nov. 17, 1818
Duke of Kent ..	Jan. 23, 1820
George III. ..	Jan. 29, 1820
Duke of York ..	Jan. 5, 1827
George IV. ..	June 26, 1830
William IV. ..	June 20, 1837
Princess Augusta ..	Sept. 22, 1840
Queen Adelaide ..	Dec. 2, 1849

Over the altar is a painting of the Last Supper by *West*; and the E. window above is filled with a semi-opaque picture of the Resurrection, designed by him, to admit which much of the ancient tracery and stained glass were removed. On the l. of the altar is the splendid screen of Gothic iron, for the tomb of King Edward IV., supposed to be the work of *Quentin Matsys*, the blacksmith-painter of Antwerp. Here hung the king's coat-of-mail, and his surcoat of crimson velvet, embroidered with pearls, rubies, and gold, which were carried off by the Parliamentarian soldiers when the chapel was defaced in 1643. Above the screen two oriel windows give light to the Royal Closet or pew occupied by the queen when she attends divine service in this chapel. The view on looking back from this point is especially rich in colour and splendid in detail.

In going round the outside of the choir, from the N. to the S. aisles, the 1st chapel on the l. is the *Rutland Chapel*, founded by Sir Thomas St. Leger to contain the altar-tomb of his wife Anne Duchess of Exeter,

sister of Edward IV., 1528. Her effigy, with that of her husband, are repeated upon a brass-plate upon the walls. l. are some of the stained windows, which surround the choir, and are filled with portraits of royal personages, commencing with Edward III. and ending with William IV. and Queen Adelaide. rt. is the *Hastings Chapel*, built by his widow to contain the tomb of William Lord Hastings, the chamberlain of Edward IV., who was beheaded by Richard III., 1483, but was afterwards allowed to be buried, "his body with his head," beside the tomb of his beloved master, while the priest appointed to pray constantly for his soul had a special house close to the N. door of the chapel. This chantry is dedicated to St. Stephen, whose life is represented in painting on the wall. rt. near this, is a statue of Field Marshal William Earl Harcourt (1830), by *Sevier*. Further rt. is the tomb of King Edward IV., who was interred here April 14, 1483, "with great funeral honour and heaviness of his people." His burial caused the 'Lament' of Skelton the poet-laureate :—

"O Lady Bes, long for me may ye call,
For I am departed till domis day;
Where be my castells and buildynges
royall,
But Windsor alone, now I have no more
And of Eton the prayers perpetuall."

On a stone near are inscribed the names of George Duke of Bedford, 3rd son, and Mary, 5th daughter of Edward IV. Queen Elizabeth Woodville was buried (1492) by her children near the king, but without any pomp or ceremony. Her grave is within the choir. Beyond, on rt., is the monument of Princess Louisa of Saxe Weimar, niece of Queen Adelaide, who died at Windsor, 1817.

At the E. end of the N. aisle is the entrance of the *Chapter-house*, in which the sword of Edward III.

is preserved, and where there is a full-length portrait of that monarch in his robes of state.

Opposite the E. end of the choir is the entrance of the *Royal Tomb-house* built by Henry VII., who intended it for his burial-place, before the building of his chapel in Westminster Abbey. It was granted by Henry VIII. to Wolsey, who there began a splendid monument for himself, which was never finished, and was completely demolished in the civil war, when the upper part was sold as defaced brass for 600*l.*, but the black marble sarcophagus was allowed to lie neglected till used for its present purpose as the covering of Nelson's tomb in St. Paul's Cathedral. In the reign of James II. Verrio was employed to paint the ceiling of the Tomb-house, and mass was performed there, which led to its being defaced by the indignant populace, after which it remained untouched till restored in 1800 by George III., who constructed the vault beneath it, in which he and his family are buried. The Tomb-house can only be visited by a special order from the Lord Chamberlain.

Turning into the S. aisle from E. to W., the 1st chapel on the l. is the *Lincoln Chapel*, with a magnificent altar-tomb to the Earl of Lincoln, 1584, Lord High Admiral in the reign of Elizabeth, and an eminent statesman of Henry VIII. and Edward VI. He is represented, with his countess, lying upon a mat, with their 8 children beneath. The shrine of Sir John Shorne was removed hither from North Marston in Bucks, and the stained windows which once existed here narrated his extraordinary history. Near this is the memorial niche of Richard Beauchamp Bishop of Salisbury. In the centre of the arch above he is represented *kneeling*, with Edward IV., before *a cross*. *Opposite, a black-letter title is chained, where he ordered*

a breviary to be placed, in order that passers-by might say a prayer for his soul.

Near this a black marble slab in the pavement marks the grave of Henry VI., whose body was removed hither from Chertsey by Richard III.—

"Here o'er the martyr-king the marble weeps;
While fast beside him once-fear'd Edward sleeps;
The grave unites, where e'en the great find rest,
And blended lie th' oppressor and th' oppressed."—*Pope*.

Stow relates that after his removal here he was worshipped by the name of the Holy King Henry, whose hat of red velvet was thought to heal the headache of such as put it on. Prayers to him were inserted in service-books of the early part of the 16th centy. Foxe says that "As [Canon] Testwood chanced to walke in the church in the afternoone, and beheld the pilgrims, especially of Devon and Cornwall, how they came in by plumps with candles and images of wax in their hands, it pitied his heart to see such great idolatrie committed, and how easily the people spent their goods in coming so farre to kiss a spur and have an old hat set on their heads; insomuch that hee could not re-fraine, but went up to them, and with all gentlenesse began to exhort them to leave such false worshipping of dumbe creatures." Lambard tells how "Windsore was polluted with the evil worship of Holy King Henry (as they called him). The seely bewitched people gaddid hither on pilgrimage, being persuaded that a small chippe of his bedstead (which was kept here) was a precious relique, and to put upon a man's heade an olde red velvet hatte of his (that lay theare) was a soveraign medecine against the headache."

Proceeding on rt., a black marble

stone, with a ducal coronet and the name "Charles Brandon," covers the grave of the Duke of Suffolk (1545), who married Mary, widow of Louis XII. of France, and sister of Henry VIII. Further rt. is the *Oxenbridge Chapel*, founded (1522) by a canon of that name. It is dedicated to St. John Baptist, and contains some curious pictures of his life, with figures in the costume of Henry VIII. Beyond, on rt., is the screen which formerly existed in the Urswick Chapel, containing the monument of its founder, with a touching epitaph in Latin.

l. is the beautiful little *Aldworth Chapel*, so called from the monuments of that family. It is supposed to have been built by Oliver King, Bishop of Exeter, 1492, and afterwards (1495) of Bath and Wells, when he built Bath Abbey. Here are the tombs of two children of his family:—"Dorothy King, 1630, lent to her parents, but speedilie required againe;" and "William King, 1633, who, being soon wearie of his abode on earth, left his parents to preserve a memorial of him, after 10 weeks' pilgrimage." The stained windows above this part of the aisle represent the Coronation of William III., and Queen Anne presenting her bounty to the bishops.

rt. are portraits on panels of Edward IV., Edward V., and Henry VII., with an inscription to their secretary, Oliver King. Beyond is the beautiful monument by *G. G. Scott*, which, as the inscription tells, "was erected by Queen Victoria as a tribute of respect and affection to her beloved aunt Mary Duchess of Gloucester, A.D. 1859." The top of the tomb is composed of serpentine marble, the figure of the cross, with the rose, thistle, and shamrock enamelled thereon. The front and ends of the tomb are of white marble, the inscriptions being enclosed in panels of serpentine with mosaic borders, each panel diapered with

the arms of England. Immediately above are 4 exquisite and expressive bas-reliefs by *Theed*, which represent "Clothing the naked," "Giving bread to the hungry," "Receiving the weary," "Visiting the sick." On the same tomb are commemorated other members of the royal house of Gloucester, viz. William Henry Duke of Gloucester, 1805; Maria Duchess of Gloucester, 1807; Princess Caroline Matilda of Gloucester, 1775; William Frederick Duke of Gloucester, 1834; Princess Sophia Matilda of Gloucester, 1844.

l. near the S. door is the *Bray Chapel*, founded (temp. Henry VII.) by Sir Reginald Bray, who built the beautiful roof of the choir, and is buried here without a tomb. It contains a curious font, and monuments to Thompson Bishop of Gloucester, 1612; Brideoake Bishop of Chichester, 1678; and the grave of the learned Dr. Waterland.

The number of relics of English saints which enriched St. George's Chapel before the Reformation is worthy of notice. Besides some milk and a candle-end of the Virgin, and skulls of SS. Bartholomew and Thomas, it contained bones of SS. Osyth, Richard, David, Margaret of Scotland, Thomas of Hereford, William of England, William of York, and Thomas of Canterbury. The chapel was terribly injured in the civil wars, though Dean Christopher Wren, father of the architect, contrived to secure many of the valuables.

On the l. of the Chapel-door is a curious inscription to George Brooke, yeoman of the guard to Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth. Behind the Tomb-house are the beautiful *Dean's Cloisters*, built by Edward III., of which the S. wall is most interesting, as being the only remaining fragment of the ancient chapel of Henry III.; preserved, and adapted to its present purpose, when the rest of the chapel, which occ

plied part of the site now filled by the cloisters, was destroyed. The details of the carving on the ancient capitals are very curious; and within the 1st arch is a relic of the ancient mural painting, for the promotion of which Henry III. was so remarkable, being a crowned portrait of that monarch himself, discovered behind the plaster in 1859. Part of the picture was destroyed, but the head remains intact. A deed of 1248 is still extant, for payment to be made to William the monk of Westminster for the execution of this very painting! The projecting window on the opposite side of the cloister is interesting as being that of the room once occupied by Anne Boleyn.

Behind these are the *Canons' Cloisters*, inhabited by those dignitaries. Here is the entrance to the *Hundred Steps*; whence a flight of 122 steps, issuing from an ancient sallyport, open from sunrise to sunset, communicates with the lower part of the town. A passage on the l. leads, by the beautiful E. E. doorway of Henry III., to the N. side of the chapel, where several of the canons' houses are situated. In the outer wall of one of these, the *Domus Regis of Henry III.* is still distinctly to be traced. It is interesting to know that the orders, still extant, given to Walter de Burgh, 24th Henry III., for constructing rooms for the King and Queen's use, exactly tally with the traces of those apartments lately discovered, so that the door which is still to be seen in the wall of the 2nd story may be conjectured with much certainty to have been that of Queen Eleanor's bedchamber, in which Edward I. was born. In pulling down the other walls of this building, many curious fragments of an earlier construction were discovered, which *had evidently belonged to the original castle of the Conqueror, but which had been enclosed and lost*

sight of in the building of Henry III.

Returning to the Lower Ward, on l. is the *Deanery*, built by Dean Christopher Urswick, 1500, and bearing his arms and name. At the old Deanery occurred the sad leave-taking between Richard II. and his Queen Isabella, then only 11 years old, described by Froissart:—"After the canons had chaunted very sweetly [in the chapel], and the King himself had chaunted a collect and made his offerings, he took the Queen in his arms and kissed her 12 or 13 times, saying sorrowfully, 'Adieu, madame, until we meet again.' And the Queen began to weep, saying, 'Alas! my lord, will you leave me here?' Upon which the King's eyes filled with tears, and he said, 'By no means, mamye; but I will go first, and you, ma chère, shall come there afterwards.' Then the King and Queen partook of wine and comfits at the Deanery, and all who chose did the same. Afterwards the King stooped down and took and lifted the Queen from the ground, and held her a long while in his arms, and kissed her at least 10 times, saying over, 'Adieu, ma chère, until we meet again; and then placed her on the ground and kissed her at least twice more; and, by our Lady, I never saw so great a lord make so much of, or show such affection to a lady, as did King Richard to his Queen. Great pity it was that they separated, for they never saw each other more."

1. Behind the Deanery is the *Winchester Tower*, which was the residence of the great prelate and architect William of Wykeham, who built it, and which was afterwards the abode of Sir J. Wyattville, the great modern architect of the Castle.

rt. Between the Upper and Lower Wards stands the *Round Tower*, or Keep of the Castle, formerly called "La Rose," planted by Edward III.

on the summit of a lofty artificial mound, and surmounted, when the Queen resides here, by the royal standard of England. This was the residence of the Governor or Castellán, to whose care all distinguished state prisoners have been intrusted. John King of France, taken at Crecy, was confined in this tower; and David King of Scotland, taken at Neville's Cross by Queen Philippa, in the tower connected with it by the wall at the S.W. of the Upper Ward, which wall is said to have been built in order to enable the royal prisoners to communicate more easily. Here also James I. of Scotland was long imprisoned by Henry IV.; and hence, in the time of Henry VIII., the gallant Earl of Surrey gazed down from the grated windows upon his fair Geraldine, and composed sonnets to her in his cell. The Earls of Lauderdale and Lindsay were imprisoned here under Oliver Cromwell, with many others. The last prisoner of state was the Maréchal de Bellisle, captured while crossing the territory of Hanover in the reign of George II. The most distinguished Governor of this tower was Prince Rupert, who filled the office after the Restoration. Evelyn describes how he "trimmed up the keep and handsomely adorned his hall with furniture of arms," and how "the huge steep stairs were invested with this martial furniture, so disposed as to represent festoons, without any confusion, trophy-like; while his bedchamber and ample rooms, hung with tapestry, curious and effeminate pictures, were extremely different from the other, which presented nothing but war and horror." All is now modernized. Washington Irving describes his visit to the royal James's prison, and his grief at seeing "the workmen dismantling the walls, pulling up the floors, and sweeping away, with most unromantic diligence, all the romantic charms with which poetry

had clothed the spot." A flight of 150 stone steps leads into the interior. It is worth ascending them in clear weather, to enjoy the view, which is said to extend over 12 counties. The tower was raised 39 ft., and the flag-turret added, by Wyattville.

The little *Garden* at the foot of the tower has been consecrated by the inspirations of the royal poet James I. of Scotland, who here first saw Lady Jane Beaufort, niece of the Cardinal, and daughter of the deceased Earl of Somerset, whom he took back with him as his wife on his return to Scotland, a union which gave universal satisfaction, as holding out a promise of peace between the two countries. His poem, called the 'King's Quair' (or Book), describes the garden:—

"Now there was made, fast by the tower's wall,
A garden faire, and in the corners set
An arbour green, with wandes long and small
Rair'd about; and so with leaves beset
Was all the place, and hawthorn hedges kuet,
That lyf (person) was none, walking there forebye,
That might with in scarce any wight espye."

Those proceeding to see the interior of the Castle must turn to the l. of the Round Tower, under the second gateway, which was built by Edward III., and bears the name of the *Norman Gate*, after passing which, they enter the Upper Ward. On their rt. is the entrance of the Round Tower; on their l. a flight of steps leads through the wing of the Castle built by Elizabeth, to the magnificent Terrace, described further on.

The *Upper Ward* occupies the site of the Castle added by Edward III., which was built by the French king's ransom, according to Stow, who also declares that the Scotch king's ransom was used in the remodelling of the Lower Ward; and that these alterations were suggested by the captive monarchs

themselves while walking with Edward III. At present it forms an extensive quadrangle, surrounded on three sides by buildings containing the royal apartments, while on the fourth rises the Keep, between the Upper and Lower Wards. The centre of the quadrangle was formerly occupied by the magnificent dragon-fountain of Queen Mary, now destroyed. At its foot stands an equestrian statue of Charles II., erected to that "best of kings," as the inscription styles him, by Tobias Rustat, a housekeeper at Hampton Court, who is mentioned by Evelyn as "Toby Rustate, page of the backstairs, a very simple, ignorant, but honest and loyal creature." The carvings on the pedestal are by Gibbons, "The fruit, fish, and implements," observes Walpole, "are all exquisite; while the man and horse may serve for a sign to draw the passenger's eye to the pedestal." There are 2 carriage-entrances to this quadrangle, one of St. George, adjoining the Devil's Tower, the other, called George IV.'s Gateway, between the York and Lancaster Towers, opening upon the Long Walk, and commanding a full view of it from end to end.

The *State Apartments*, situated in the Star Building of Charles II., now called the Stuart Building, are entered by a Gothic porch on the l., adjoining King John's Tower. Their ceilings were decorated with mythological subjects by Antonio Verrio, who was ordained chief painter by Charles II., but who has since fallen into general disrepute, partly through the satire of Pope and Walpole. The apartments are approached by a narrow staircase, decorated with a portrait of Sir J. Wyattville, and are shown in the following order:—

1. The *Queen's Audience Chamber*.—The ceiling, by Verrio, represents Queen Catherine of Braganza as Britannia, attended by the goddesses

to the temple of Virtue. The magnificent Gobelin Tapestry represents the history of Esther and Mordecai. The portraits are William II. and Frederick, Princes of Orange, father and grandfather of our William III., by *Honthorst*, and a very interesting picture of Mary Queen of Scots by *Janet*, with her execution at Fotheringay represented in the background, and a curious inscription. The frames of these portraits are all exquisitely carved by Gibbons.

2. The *Vandyke Room*.—No gallery in the world can display so many fine portraits by this great master. They are 22 in number:—

1. Henry Comte de Berg.
2. Charles I., in royal robes, seated; next him his son Prince Charles; on the l. Henrietta Maria, also seated, little Prince James on her arm. Beyond the pillar the Tower of London in the distance. 1632.
3. Duchess of Richmond, only daughter of George Villiers 1st Duke of Buckingham, painted as St. Agnes, with the symbols of the Lamb and Palm-branch, with which the silk dress and expression ill correspond.
4. Thomas Killigrew and Thomas Carew, poets. Dated 1638. The former was afterwards Charles II.'s jester.
5. Queen Henrietta Maria, in white silk, her hair adorned with pearls and a red band, taking some roses from a table, on which lies the crown. This picture hung in Charles I.'s bedroom.
6. Venetia, wife of Sir Kenelm Digby; a male figure and 2 children bound at her feet, symbolical of Calumny.
7. George and Francis Villiers, sons of the 1st Duke of Buckingham. 1635. Belonged to James II.
8. Thomas Prince of Carignan, in armour, with the commander's bâton. A duplicate of this is at Munich.
9. Henrietta Maria, in profile, half-length, painted by Vandyke for Bernini to model from.
10. Beatrice de Cusance, Princess de Cantecroze.
11. The children of Charles I. In the centre Prince Charles, 7 yrs. of age, with a dog; on his r. Princesses Elizabeth and Mary, on his l. Princess Anne with Prince James sitting nearly undressed on a stool. 1637. This picture hung in Charles I.'s breakfast-room at Whitehall.
12. Head of Charles I. 3 times on one canvas, painted for Bernini, who executed from it a bust for Whitehall.

13. Henrietta Maria, full front.
14. Lucy Countess of Carlisle.
15. Sir Kenelm Digby.
16. Charles II., aged 11, in armour.
17. Portrait of Vandyke himself.
18. Henrietta Maria, full length.
19. Prince Charles, aged 9, with Princess Mary and the Duke of York.
20. Mary Countess of Dorset, as St. Agnes, probably only a copy.
21. Charles I. on a grey horse, with M. de St. Antoine, Master of the Horse. This picture formed part of the private collection of Charles I., was sold by the rebels for 200*l.* to Remée van Lemput, a Dutch painter, and recovered by Charles II. through a lawsuit.
22. Portrait erroneously supposed to be Jan Snellinck, the friend of Vandyke.

3. The *Queen's State Drawing Room* contains a number of pictures by *Zuccarelli*. Over the entrance is Henry Duke of Gloucester, son of Charles I.; on the l. George I. (*Fountain*) and II.; on the rt. Frederick Prince of Wales, and George III.

4. The *Queen's Closet* contains a number of pictures, including portraits of Erasmus, a copy of Holbein (*Pens*); Henry VIII., Edward VI., Sir H. Guildford, and a magnificent portrait of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, father of the unfortunate Earl of Surrey (*Holbein*); and the celebrated picture of *The Misers*, said to be the picture whereby *Quentin Matsys*, the smith of Antwerp, is believed to have obtained his wife, an artist's daughter, in marriage, having proved by its execution that he also was an artist. Hence also his epitaph at Antwerp, "Connubialis amor de Mulcibre fecit Apellem." "The strength of this picture," says *Kugler*, "lies essentially in the effort at character in the painter's conception of the subject. Two men sit at table; one, who counts his gold, and notes down the sum in his account-book, appears to be a merchant; the other, who familiarly lays his hand on his shoulder, and looks with malicious pleasure towards the spectator, seems to have just succeeded in outwitting him. There are several repetitions and copies of this pic-

ture in existence, besides free imitations by later artists."

5. The *King's Closet*.—The Emperor Charles V., and the Duke of Alva, *Sir Antony More*; portraits of the painter and his wife, *Van Cleve*; the Woman of Samaria, *Guercino*; St. Catherine, *Domenichino*; an officer in the Papal Guard, "probably the portrait of Lorenzo Cibo, praised by Vasari," *Parmegiano*; Gardener of the Duke of Florence, with a knife in his hand, *Andrea del Sarto*.

6. The *King's Drawing Room*, or the *Rubens Room*, entirely filled with portraits by that master:—

1. His 1st wife, Elizabeth Brandt, one of his finest portraits.
2. St. Martin and the Beggar. The composition probably alone by Rubens, the execution by Vandyke.
3. The Virgin and Infant Saviour, with St. John, St. Francis, St. Elizabeth, and St. Joseph.
4. Philip IV. of Spain, on horseback.
5. The painter himself. This belonged to Charles I.
6. Winter. "The uncomfortable feeling of winter is admirably expressed; Rubens, who painted all and everything, has here even put in the single flecks of snow." (*W.*)
7. Archduke Albert of Austria.
8. Summer. This and its companion-picture belonged to Villiers Duke of Buckingham.
9. Sir Balthazar Gerbier, the architect, and his family. Supposed with much reason to be by Vandyke.
10. Male portrait in ruff.

7. The *Council Chamber*.—A female head, *Annibale Caracci*; St. John, in a landscape, from the collection of Charles I., *Correggio*; the Countess of Desmond, at the age of 120, *Rembrandt*; Silence; The Virgin and Sleeping Jesus, with St. John approaching, *Annibale Caracci*; Martin Luther; Stallhof; a German merchant reading a note; Head of a young German, *Holbein*; 2 interiors of churches, the dark effect remarkably good, *Peter Neefs*; John Duke of Marlborough, *Knelher*; William Duke of Cumberland, *Sir J. Reynolds*.

8. The *Vestibule* contains 6 paintings of the events of Edward III.'s reign, by *West*. Here also are terracotta busts of Edward III. and Queen Philippa, copied from their tombs.

9. The *Grand Staircase* has a statue of George IV., by *Chantrey*.

10. The *Grand Vestibule* contains armour of the time of Elizabeth and Charles I.; a large cannon, sent by Sir J. Brooke from Borneo, and a smaller one taken from Tippoo Saib at Seringapatam.

11. The *Grand Dining Room*, called the Waterloo Chamber till the visit of Napoleon III., is decorated with portraits of all the chief persons who bore a prominent part in the war which terminated at Waterloo. They are almost all by *Sir Thomas Lawrence*, and were painted for George IV.

Sovereigns are :— Francis I. of Austria, Alexander of Russia, Frederick William of Prussia, Pope Pius VII. (the Pope sat 9 times for this portrait, which is the finest Lawrence ever painted), Charles X., and George III. (*Beechey*)— with the royal Dukes of York and Cambridge, and Prince Leopold.

Generals : — Wellington, Hill (*Pickersgill*), Blucher, Platoff, Czernitsheff, Archduke Charles, Prince Schwartzburg, Duke of Brunswick, Overoff.

Ministers :— Alten, Castlereagh, Liverpool, Canning, Gonsalvi, Metternich, Hardenberg, Nesselrode, W. van Humboldt, Capo d'Istria, Bathurst, Munster, Duc de Richelieu.

12. The *Throne Room* has carvings by Gibbons; portraits of George III., *Gainsborough*; George IV., *Lawrence*; William IV., *Shee*.

13. The *Ball Room*, in the style of Louis XIV., has Gobelin Tapestry, given by Charles X., representing the history of Jason and the Golden Fleece. Here is the great Malachite Vase, presented to Her Majesty by the late Emperor of Russia.

14. *St. George's Hall*, in which all the festivities of the Order of the Garter are held, appropriately fitted up by Wyattville in the Gothic style, with the coats of arms of all the Knights since the foundation of the Order; the numbers on each referring to the names painted on the panels below. Here are full-length portraits of the last 11 Sovereigns :—

James I., *Vandyke*.
Charles I., *Vandyke*.
Charles II., *Lely*.
James II., *Lely*.
Mary II., *Kneller*.
William III., *Kneller*.
Anne, *Kneller*.
George I., *Kneller*.
George II., *Zeeman*.
George III., *Dupont*.
George IV., *Lawrence*.

15. The *Guard Chamber*, fitted up with armour. Over the fireplace is the famous shield of *Benvenuto Cellini*, given by Francis I. to Henry VIII., on the Field of the Cloth of Gold. At the end of the room, on a portion of the mast of the Victory, perforated by a ball at the battle of Trafalgar, is a bust of Nelson, by *Chantrey*, with Marlborough on the rt. and Wellington on the l., having over their heads the banners of Blenheim and Waterloo, by the annual presentation of which, on the anniversaries of those victories, the domains of Blenheim and Strathfieldsaye are held.

The armour in this room is very interesting. It includes that of the Duke of Brunswick, 1530; Lord Howard, the Admiral against the Armada, 1588; Lord Essex, Elizabeth's favourite, 1596; Henry Prince of Wales, eldest son of James I., 1612; his brother Prince Charles; Prince Rupert of the Rhine, 1630. The 2 cannons were taken in the Punjab in the Sikh war.

16. The *Queen's Presence Chamber*, with a ceiling by *Verrio*, has fine Gobelin Tapestry, with the history of Mordecai and Haman, and por-

traits of the Duchess of Orleans, youngest daughter of Charles I., by *Mignard*, and of the Princesses Elizabeth and Dorothea of Brunswick, by *Mytens*.

The *Private Apartments of the Queen* are only shown in her absence, by an express order from the Lord Chamberlain. They are comfortable, as well as handsome, and the views from the windows are magnificent. A corridor, 520 ft. long, by *Sir J. Wyattville*, gives access to the entire suite of apartments, and runs round the S. and E. sides of the quadrangle. It is filled with choice works of art, and the walls are decorated with *Canaletti's* views of Venice and Rome, among the best that he ever painted: the Grand Canal, St. Mark's and the procession of the Bucentaur, the Giant's Stairs, and the Arch of Titus and Temple of Jupiter Stator at Rome are the most remarkable. Other landscapes, in which some of the chief buildings in London are introduced, are by *Zuccarelli*.

Among the portraits are those of Pitt, of Thurlow, Eldon, Canning, Sir W. Scott, Sir W. Curtis, and of the Princess Charlotte, when a child, by *Lawrence*. There are busts of Her Majesty when a child, of her royal uncles, of Pitt, Fox, Sheridan, Lord Grey, Canning, Wellesley, the authors of Great Britain, and many military heroes, including Wellington, Blucher, Platoff, &c.

Among the many beautiful cabinets is one which belonged to Cardinal Wolsey. The Queen's private staircase is prettily conceived, and, being triangular in its plan, shows a difficulty ingeniously overcome by the architect.

The *Queen's Drawing Room* is remarkable as having been the room in which George IV. and William IV. died; the *Great Drawing Room* for its magnificent furniture of red silk; the *Dining Room* for its rich mirrors and gilded Gothic tracery, and for

its solid silver-gilt wine-cooler, by *Flaxman*, decorated with vine tendrils, foliage, and grapes, among which little Cupids are sporting. The *Armoury*, composed of objects presented to the different kings on various occasions, and arranged under the energetic superintendence of the Prince Consort, may now be considered the finest collection of the kind in the kingdom. The *Plate Room* contains, among its curiosities, the St. George candelabra of silver, 4 ft. high; a wine-fountain taken in the Spanish Armada; a Mexican bread-basket of gold; Nell Gwynne's gold bellows; *Flaxman's* Shield of Achilles; a nautilus shell set in gold, by *Benvenuto Cellini*; a jug which belonged to Charles XII. of Sweden, taken at Poltawa; the footstool of Tippoo Saib, a tiger-head of gold, with teeth of crystal; and a jewelled bird, which crowned the canopy of his throne.

The *Royal Private Library* contains a magnificent collection of *Drawings by the Old Masters*; those of *Leonardo da Vinci* are contained in 3 vols., a collection unrivalled, except by those of the ex-Grand Duke of Tuscany, and that in the Ambrosian Library at Milan.—(W.) The drawings by *Michael Angelo* are numerous, comprising several studies for the frescoes in the Sistine Chapel. 53 drawings are attributed to *Raphael*, from which Passavant has selected 18 as genuine, comprising studies for the cartoon of "Feeding Sheep" at Hampton Court, for the figure of Poetry in the Camera della Segnatura, for the Expulsion of Adam and Eve in the Loggia of the Vatican, and for the figure of Jonah in Sta. Maria del Popolo. There are also drawings by *Luca Signorelli* (a study for Orvietto); *Fra Bartolomeo*; *Andrea del Sarto*; *Filippo Lippi*; *Correggio*; *Parmegianino*. Several volumes contain drawings of *Guido Reni*; 2 those of

Raffaëlle's pupils, especially *Giulio Romano* and *Caravaggio*; 11 the *Caracci*; 16 *Guercino*; 24 *Domenichino*; besides several of *Claude*, *Poussin*, and *Albert Durer*. But the gems of the collection are 2 vols., containing 87 portraits, by *Holbein*, of the court of Henry VIII., comprising those of Jane Seymour, Prince Edward as a child, Anne Boleyn, Collet, and More. Another collection, of *Prints*, perhaps the finest in England, has been made for Windsor by the Queen and Prince Consort, and has been arranged by the latter with his well-known taste and judgment.

The *Terrace*, more than 2500 ft. long, which surrounds the Castle on 3 sides, should on no account remain unvisited. It is the finest walk of the kind in existence, Evelyn says of it, "The Terrace towards Eton, with the Park, the meandering Thames, and sweet meadows, yields one of the most delightful prospects in the world." At one place a projection has been thrown out from it, which encircles the Queen's *Private Flower Garden*. From the W. end of the Terrace may be seen the huge inscription on the Winchester Tower, "*Hoc fecit Wykeham*." Abp. Parker relates that these words were originally placed here by William of Wykeham himself while building the Castle, and that the King would have been seriously offended at his thus arrogating to himself the credit of the building, if the prelate had not adroitly explained the inscription to mean that the Castle made *him*. Wyattville perpetuated the inscription by affixing these letters to the ashlar work of the Tower. On this Terrace Elizabeth walked for an hour every day, attended by her court; it was also the favourite walk of both the Charleses, and Charles I. constructed an ornamental gate at its E. extremity, the very *entrance beneath whose pediment* after-

wards paced the guard who held him in captivity. Here Cromwell walked daily while he lived at Windsor, and so also did his venerable mother, who also resided here, and whom her son "Noll" visited twice a day to assure her that he was still existing. The family processions here, in the time of George III., are described by Mad. D'Arblay:—"The King and Queen, the Prince of Mecklenburgh, and Her Majesty's mother, walked together; next them, the princesses and their ladies, and the young princes, making a very gay and pleasing procession of one of the finest families in the world. Every way they moved, the crowd retired to stand up against the wall as they passed, and then closed in to follow." The whole length of the Terrace is thrown open on Saturday and Sunday, and is enlivened on Sunday evenings by a band of music. The Queen occasionally walks on the Terrace from 4½ to 5½ on Sunday evenings in summer, attended by her suite, in order to allow her subjects an opportunity of seeing her.

Below the Terrace are the *Slopes*, which lead towards the Park, and are planted with a variety of trees and shrubs, intersected by shady walks, to which the public are not admitted. At the foot of the Slopes was the Tournament-ground, where Edward III. used to take part in the jousts, with his shield bearing a white swan, and the motto:—

"Hay, hay, the white swan;
By God's soul, I am thy man."

The *Home Park*, now closed to the public, immediately adjoins the Castle, and encloses 500 acres. In this Park, and the fields near Frogmore, Shakespeare laid many scenes of the '*Merry Wives of Windsor*.' It was here particularly that Falstaff, disguised as "a Windsor Stag," was tormented by the fairies. A withered and barkless oak, enclosed

with a railing, standing in the line of the avenue of elms, not far from the footpath, has the name of *Herne's Oak*, though it is more probable that the real tree was accidentally cut down by George III. in 1796.

"There is an old tale goes that Herne the hunter,
Sometime a keeper here in Windsor park,
Doth all the winter time, at still midnight,
Walk round about an oak, with great ragged horns,
And then he blasts the tree and takes the cattle,
And makes milch kine yield blood, and shakes a chain
In a most hideous and dreadful manner.
... . Marry, this is our device,
That Falstaff at that oak shall meet with us
Disguised like Herne with huge horns on his head."—*Shakespeare*.

Not far off is a cottage of the late Queen Adelaide, consisting of 2 unpretending rooms, with a garden laid out by her.

Frogmore House, near the road leading to Runnymede and Egham, formerly the residence of Queen Charlotte and the Princess Augusta, is now inhabited by H. R. H. the Duchess of Kent.

2 m. E. of the town, on the banks of the Thames, is the village of *Old Windsor*, where on a site, probably to the W. of the ch., near the river, was the ancient palace of Edward the Confessor, which was the predecessor of the Castle. Here, according to Fabyan, the great Earl Godwin died:—"Sitting at the King's board, with the other lords, he perceived that the King suspected him of his brother Alfred's death, and said, 'So may I safely swallow this morsel of bread, that I hold in my hand, as I am guiltless of the deed.' But as soon as he had received the bread, forthwith he was choked. And the King commanded that he should be drawn from the table, and so conveyed to Winchester, and there buried." Here William of Malmesbury narrates that *Wulwin*, a blind wood-

cutter, besought the King to restore his sight, when the King, mildly answering, "By our Lady, I shall be grateful if God, through my means, shall choose to take pity upon a wretched creature," laid his hands on the blind man, when the blood dripped from his eyes, and he saw, exclaiming with rapture, "I see you, O King! I see you, O King!" Here also Roger of Wendover tells that Earl Tosti seized his brother Harold by the hair when about to pledge the King in a cup of wine at the banquet; in revenge for which, Harold seized him in his arms, and dashed him violently against the ground, till they were parted by the soldiers.

Windsor Great Park is separated from the Castle by part of the town, and by the high road. It contains about 1800 acres, abounds in delightful drives and walks, through forest-scenery, and is occupied by vast herds of deer. Here Henry VIII. rode forth hawking every afternoon, and held his great archery meetings, at one of which Barlow, a Londoner, so outshot the rest, that the King dubbed him Duke of Shoreditch; and here also Elizabeth used to hunt in the early morning, and, as a special compliment, would cut the throat of the deer with her own hand.

The Park is traversed for 3 m. by the great avenue known as the *Long Walk* (begun by Charles II., and completed by William III.), which is approached from the Castle by a road passing under George IV.'s Gateway, which crosses the site of the Upper Lodge, bought, as a residence, by Queen Anne, as Princess of Denmark, when under the displeasure of William III., and afterwards inhabited for many years by George III. and his family. Hither the materials of Holbein's Gate at Whitehall, removed 1759, were brought by the Duke of Cumberland, who intended to have erected it as

a termination to the avenue, but his death prevented the design. The carriage-road down this avenue was constructed in 1710. Parallel to this, on rt., runs the Queen's Walk, an avenue planted under Queen Anne, 1707.

At the extremity of the Long Walk is *Snow Hill*, where, raised on a block of granite, stands a colossal equestrian leaden statue of George III. in a Roman toga, by *Westmacott*. The view of the Castle from hence, with groups of beech-trees in the foreground, is exceedingly beautiful. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. from the extremity of the Long Walk is *Cumberland Lodge*, the residence of the Duke who conquered at Culloden. Not far from it stood the *Royal Lodge*, a cottage in the Gothic style, built by George IV., and forming his favourite retreat, in which he spent the last hours of his life, secluded as much as possible from public view. After his death it was all pulled down, except the Dining-room and Conservatory. Near it stands a neat *Gothic Chapel*. Close to *Sandpit Gate* is the *Heronry*, celebrated for its magnificent beech-trees.

1 m. N. of Snow Hill is *Cranbourn Lodge*. (See Rte. 2.)

A delightful drive leads from Snow Hill to *Virginia Water (Inn: Wheat-sheaf)*, the largest artificial lake in the kingdom, formed at great expense, and fed by a running stream, which escapes from it in an artificial cascade by the side of the Bagshot road. The banks are wooded, but flat and uninteresting: they are adorned on one side by a *Chinese fishing-temple*, from the gallery in front of which George IV. used almost daily to enjoy the amusement of angling; and on the other, by fragments of a picturesque *Colonnade* of porphyry, granite, and marble, brought from the African coast, near Tunis. Upon the lake floats a miniature frigate. Other objects in this part of the grounds

are the *Hermitage*, on a height overlooking the water; the *Belvidere*, a turreted triangular building, with a battery of 21 guns, used by the Duke of Cumberland in the campaign of 1745; the *Cascade*, near the Bagshot road, adjoining which is a sort of grotto, formed of stones dug up on Bagshot Heath, and supposed to have been a Druidical Cromlech.

At Virginia Water is a Stat. on the branch of the South-Western Railway from Windsor to Reading.

Windsor Forest, which lay on the W. side of the Park, and measured 120 m. in circumference, is now almost entirely enclosed, and converted into arable land, but here and there a wild bit of wood and common, with patches of heath in the sandy soil, still give the country a forest-like character. Leaving the Park by the *Black Nest Gate*, the road from Egham to Wokingham may be joined. Near this is the elegant villa of Thomas Hollo-way, Esq.

6 m., rt. $\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Sunninghill*, where there is a small country inn called the *Wells Hotel*, once very celebrated for the 2 chalybeate springs which still remain in its old-fashioned garden, and which were a great object of resort from Windsor. In the Vicarage Garden are 3 trees, planted by Burke, Chesterfield, and Bolingbroke respectively. The churchyard has a fine old yew-tree. The country here is entirely occupied by a succession of large parks and gentlemen's seats, the largest of which is *Silwood Park* (T. Hargreaves, Esq.).

At Sunninghill Scott visited Caning's friend George Ellis, and "Mr. and Mrs. Ellis heard the first two or three cantos of the unpublished 'Lay of the Last Minstrel' under an old oak in Windsor Forest."—See *Lockhart's Life of Scott*.

6 $\frac{1}{2}$ rt. *Ascot Race Course*, with its Grand Stand, occupying an elevated

situation, which has fine view over the surrounding country, interspersed with woods of fir and birch. The course is circular, and is only short of 2 m. by 66 yds. The first half is on the descent, and the last half, called the Old Mile, is up hill the greater part of the way. The last $\frac{1}{2}$ m. of the above is called the Swinley Course. When the rest of Windsor Forest was enclosed, the racecourse and the avenues thereto were directed by Act of Parliament to be "kept and continued as a racecourse for the public use at all times." The races, which take place early in June, were founded by the Duke of Cumberland (uncle of Geo. III.), one of the most conspicuous characters on the English turf of past days, and the breeder of the famous horse Eclipse. "From the death of Charles II., till the period of the Duke's coming upon the turf, racing had languished, perhaps from want of more support from the Crown and the higher aristocracy, and H. R. H. was the man to revive it. This was not effected without an immensity of expense, and an incredible succession of losses to the sharks, Greeks, and blacklegs of the time, by whom H. R. H. was surrounded, and, of course, incessantly pillaged. Having, however, the military maxim of 'Persevere and conquer,' he was not deterred from the object of his pursuit, till he became possessed of the best stock, best blood, and most numerous stud in the kingdom" (*Quart. Rev.* XLIX. *Darvill's English Race-horse*). A cup was given to Ascot Races by the late Emperor of Russia after his visit to England, but this was refused at the time of the Crimean war; the gift has since been continued by the Emperor of the French.

10 m. *Bracknell*, a long village of one street, containing a graceful modern ch. of flint and chalk.

[1. 2 m. *Easthampstead*, a pretty [*B. B. & O.*]

rural village. The ch., which has a thick red-brick tower, and a fine old yew-tree in its churchyard, contains the monuments of Sir William Trumbull (1716), Secretary of State in the reign of William III., and his lady, the friends and correspondents of Pope, who wrote the epitaph of Sir William, which is extant in his works, but is not inscribed upon the monument. Here is also the monument of the poet Fenton, also a friend of Pope, with an epitaph by him, 1732. He died here whilst on a visit to the widow of Sir William Trumbull, "of indolence and inactivity," as Pope declares in one of his letters.

Easthampstead Park was long a royal residence. Richard II. had a hunting-seat there; Queen Catherine of Arragon was staying there in 1531, when the king sent some of the lords of council to prevail upon her to consent to a divorce; and James I. resided there in 1622 and 28. It is now the property of the Marquis of Downshire.

1 m. S. of Easthampstead Park is an irregular fortification, on an eminence, with a double ditch, known as *Cæsar's Camp*, S. of which, running across Bagshot Heath, are traces of a Roman road, known as the *Devil's Highway*.]

14 m. *Oakingham*, or *Wokingham*. Pop. in 1851, 3500. *Inn*: Rose. The original inn of this name was celebrated by the song of Molly Mog; the story being, that Gay, Swift, Pope, and Arbuthnot amused themselves, when detained here by the wet weather, in the composition of a song, to which each contributed a verse in turn, taking the fair maid of the inn as their subject. "John Mog was then landlord of the Rose, and had two daughters, Molly and Sally, of whom Sally was in fact the cruel beauty and the subject of the song. But each wit was too far gone to distinguish—

'His senses all lost in a fog;
And nothing could give satisfaction
But thinking of sweet Molly Mog.'

So the honour, if honour there be, has clung to Molly, who, after all, died a spinster in 1766, at the age of 67." The lover, who is represented as pining for her, is said to have been the last heir male of the Standens of Arborfield.

The modern Gothic *Townhall* is by *Poulton* and *Woodman* of Reading. Just outside the town is the *Ch. of All Saints*, with a picturesque old grey tower. Inside it is stuffed up with pews and galleries. The chancel contains a flat stone to Thomas Godwin, Bishop of Bath and Wells, a native of this place, who died here, 1590. On the S. wall is a curious brass, 1625. Wokingham is the only town in the Forest. It gave the title of Baron to Prince George of Denmark, husband of Queen Anne. The ancient amusement of bull-baiting was continued here till within the last 20 years.

1 m. from the town is *Lucas Hospital*, on Luckley Green, founded by Henry Lucas, 1665, for 16 pensioners and a master, under direction of the Drapers' Company.

There is a Stat. of the Reading and Guildford Rly. at Wokingham, and a line branches off thence to Staines.

5 m. S.E. is *Sandhurst*, the great *Royal Military College* for cadets in the army, situated in pretty woods of fir, with a lake. It is a plain Doric edifice, with a handsome portico, and is calculated to contain 400 cadets and 300 senior students, besides masters and officers. A chapel, riding-school, and observatory, are attached to the College. The first branches of this institution were temporarily placed at High Wycombe in 1799, and were removed to Great Marlow in 1802, by their founder H. R. H. the late Duke of York, whence they came here on

the erection of the present building in 1812. The affairs of the college are under the control of a board of commissioners, under the presidency of the Commander-in-Chief, consisting of the Secretary at War, the Master General of the Ordnance, and other General Officers on the home staff of the army. It is immediately governed by a general, having under him a colonel as lieutenant-governor, and other officers. The chief branches of study are mathematics, practical astronomy, the theory of fortification and actual construction of field-works, military drawing and surveying, the principal modern languages, the Latin classics, and general history; students are also regularly instructed in military exercises and riding. The officers of the college live in detached houses, in the Park, close to York Town (*Inn*: York Hotel), a village on the London road on the outskirts of the Park.

2 m. hence, having a Stat. on the Reading and Reigate Rly., is the *Wellington College*, built 1856, in memory of the Duke of Wellington, for the education of the orphan sons of officers. The college occupies a wild and elevated situation on an open sandy height; and has a fine view over the country to Strathfieldsaye (in Hants), the residence of the illustrious Duke in whose honour it was founded. It was built of brick from designs of *Shaw*, and depends wholly for its architectural effect upon its bold projecting cornice, surmounted by a slate roof of high pitch to throw off the rain. The entrance-gateway in the centre is surmounted by the arms of the great Duke. The plan of the college consists of two quadrangles, surrounded by arcades of communication; the first being the school quadrangle, the second the hall quadrangle. In the former, on the N., is the entrance-gateway, with the porter's lodge and office on

each side of it; also the head-master's residence on one side, and the steward's on the other. On the S. side is the school, in the centre of the building, and on the E. and W. sides the class-room and boys' library. In the second quadrangle, on the S. side is the hall, on the E. side the kitchen and domestic offices, and on the W. the under-masters' rooms and their library. In the kitchen-court is a large plunging-bath for the boys. The upper stories comprehend the dormitories, divided into separate rooms, and extending from N. to S. on the E. and W. sides of the two quadrangles; the hall and school running transversely, and being only one story in height. The foundation-stone was laid by the Queen, June 2, 1856.

[3 m. W. of Wokingham is *Arborfield*, formerly the property of the Bullocks, one of whom was known as "Hugh of the Brazen Hand." In the old manor-house, described in 'Our Village' under the name of "The Old House at Aberleigh," the ill-used suitor of Molly Mog died of love at the age of 27. 2 m. further S. is *Swallowfield*, where Clarendon had a house, "which he had acquired, together with the manor, by his marriage with Dame Backhouse, and which Governor Pitt, commonly called 'Diamond,' bought from his grandson." Here Lysons and others, without much foundation, assert that he wrote his celebrated History. Miss Mitford removed to Swallowfield from Three Mile Cross, and here she died Jan. 1855, and is buried in the churchyard. N. of the village is *Swallowfield Park* (Sir Charles Russell, Bt.).]

15 m. l. *Bear Wood Common*. A short distance S.W., in the parish of Shinefield, is the site of *Beaumonts Castle*, built by Nicholas Lord de la Beche, 1338, which underwent "an outrageous assault" in 1352, when John de Dalton, coming with an armed force, killed Michael de

Poynings, uncle to Lord Poynings, Thomas le Clerk, and others; frightened the chaplain to death; and carried off several prisoners, among whom was Margaret Lady de la Beche."—*Lysons*.

18 m. l. *White Knights*. (See Rte. 3.)

20 m. *Reading*.

ROUTE 2.

WINDSOR TO READING, BY WINKFIELD, WARFIELD, AND BINFIELD.

1 m., rt. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Clever*. The ch. contains a curious memorial of Berkshire prowess, in a brass-plate, with the inscription:—

"He that lyeth under this stone
Shot with 100 men, himself alone.
This is true that I doe say.
The match was shot at Oldfield, at Bray;
I will tell you before you goe hence,
That his name was Martyne Expenche."

Clever Park (R. Forster, Esq.) contains a good collection of pictures, including—*Murillo*, The Assumption of the Virgin, with the Apostles surrounding the empty tomb; The Virgin seated, showing the sleeping Infant to St. Joseph, the infant St. John in adoration. *Rubens*, The Virgin holding the standing Child in her lap—"Such a Child as this, and such a right-hand as that of the Virgin, *Rubens* alone could paint." (W.) *Greuze*, a little girl, with a lapdog in her arms. *Ruysdael*, "one of the most beautiful and original works of the master."

dated 1653." *Cuyyp; Berghem; Ostade; Jan Steen; C. Dujardin; Both; Van de Velde.*

1 m. from Windsor is the *Clewer Penitentiary*, a red-brick convent-like building, by *Woodyer*, containing a Superior, 16 Sisters, and 54 penitents, who are all actively employed in the work of the house, and constantly attended by the Sisters, who wear a peculiar dress. The chapel, fitted up with stalls for the Sisters, and chairs for the penitents, is simple, but very beautiful, adorned with coloured brick-work in the interior, with a high timber-roof and richly-stained windows; the altarpiece is exquisitely carved. An inner court has a large stone cross. The *Orphanage*, close by, contains 25 orphans, paid for by friends, but brought up as their own children by the Sisters, who find them places as they grow up, but always consider this as their home when they need one.

The view of Windsor from Clewer is very beautiful.

3 m. l. *Cranbourn Lodge*. Only a strange-looking fragment remains of the house built by Lord Ranelagh in the reign of Charles II., and successively inhabited by Charles Duke of St. Albans, the Duke of Cumberland, the Duke of York, and the Duke of Gloucester. Cranbourn is celebrated for its oaks; 2 of those still remaining are 36 ft. in circumference. One of them is known as William the Conqueror's Oak.

rt. 2 m. near the road from Windsor to Twyford is *New Lodge*, the beautiful modern residence of the Belgian Minister.

6 m. *Winkfield*. The ch. contains a brass representing one of the Montagues in the act of distributing bread.

10 m., l. 1 m. *Binfield*. The ch., restored 1859, has a picturesque grey tower, and contains a very curious hourglass stand, with figures of animals attached to the pulpit, and a

monument of Adm. Sir E. Vernon, 1794, who commanded the British fleet at the taking of Pondicherry. This was the early home of Pope, who speaks of his father's house here as—

"My paternal cell,
A little house, with trees a-row,
And, like its master, very low."

1½ m. from the ch., in Mrs. Young's woods, is a grove of beech-trees, which was a favourite resort of the poet, who is said to have composed many of his earlier pieces beneath a tree which formerly existed here, with the inscription "Here Pope sung," but which is now destroyed.

11 m., rt. 2 m. *Bear Wood*, J. Walter, Esq. The house, described Rte. 3, contains some fine pictures.

14 m. The road here joins that from Wokingham to Reading, described Rte. 1.

ROUTE 3.

MAIDENHEAD TO SHRIVENHAM, BY READING [WALLINGFORD], DIDCOT [WANTAGE], AND THE VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE.—GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Leaving Maidenhead Stat., the Rly. enters Berks, on crossing the lofty bridge over the Thames, whence there is a lovely view up and down the river.

1½ m. l. on the banks of the river is Bray, celebrated for its versatile vicar, Simon Aleyu, who died 1588,

and who is described by Fuller as living under King Henry VIII., King Edward VI., Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth, and being "first a Papist, then a Protestant, then a Papist, then a Protestant again. He had seen some martyrs burnt at Windsor, and found this fire too hot for his tender temper. This vicar being taxed by one with being a turn-coat and an unconstant changeling, 'Not so,' said he, 'for I have always kept my principle, which is this, to live and die the vicar of Bray.'" Hence his declaration in the well-known ballad:—

"To teach my flock I never missed
Kings were by God appointed;
And they are damned who dare resist
Or touch the Lord's anointed.
And this is law, I will maintain
Until my dying day, sir,
That, whatsoever king shall reign,
I'll be the vicar of Bray, sir."

The Ch. has a square tower, much later than the rest of the building, which is E. E. and Dec., but containing a fine E. E. doorway. Here are some very fine brasses, of Sir J. Foxley and 2 wives, 14th centy., and of the Norreys family, 1532. The Lych Gate to the S. of the ch. is a picturesque erection, with 2 rooms over it, reached by an open stair. On one of the timbers below is its date, 1448, in archaic figures. Archbp. Laud had a farm here.

Jesus Hospital, founded by William Goddard, 1627, for 40 poor persons, is a very picturesque quadrangle of brick almshouses, enclosing a garden-plot planted with flowers. There is an old chapel, and the statue of the founder remains over the entrance.

1 m. further down the river is *Monkey Island*, so called from a pavilion built there by the 3rd Duke of Buckingham, covered on the inside with paintings of monkeys, by Clermont, in various ludicrous attitudes. Another building on the island, used as a billiard-room, has a fine carved ceiling.

[2 m. 1. of Bray is the ancient and picturesque manor-house of Ockwells, or Ockholt, like the old lath-and-plaster halls of Cheshire, with moss-grown roofs, fringed gables, and long latticed windows. It is believed to have been built temp. Hen. VI., from the fact of antelopes having been used as supporters of the royal arms in one of the hall-windows, which was only the case in that reign; but the manor was originally granted to Richard de Norreys, the cook of Queen Eleanor, wife of Henry III., in 1267, whose descendants remained there till 1786. The old hall formerly contained a very curious series of stained windows, which have been removed by its present possessor, in which the Norreys arms were frequently repeated, with their motto, "Feythfully serve." A coat of mail and some fragments of armour still hang upon the walls.]

[From Maidenhead there is a branch line to High Wycombe, soon to be completed as far as Thame, whence it will eventually extend to Oxford. Trains run 6 times a day.

27½ m. *Cookham. Inn*: Old Bel and the Dragon. A popular fishing-village, in lovely scenery. (See Rte. 8.)

28½ m. *Marlow Road Stat.* Omnibuses meet the trains for Marlow, 4 m. *Inn*: Crown. (See Rte. 8.)

The Rly. crosses the Thames, having a beautiful view of Cliefden woods and Hedsor, crowned by its Sham Castle, and enters the valley of the Wick, which drives a large number of paper-mills.

30½ m. *Woburn Green Stat.* Here is Woburn Manor-house, the old palace of the Bps. of Lincoln (described Rte. 8).

31½ m. *Loudwater Stat.*, where there are manufactories of paper.

34½ m. *High Wycombe. Inns*: Red Lion; Falcon Commercial Inn. (See Rte. 10.)]

2 m. 1. is White Waltham, whose ch. is a mixture of old fragments

and hideous modern additions. In the churchyard is a magnificent old yew-tree. Mr. J. Bower was vicar here 67 yrs., and died 1644. Preaching before Queen Elizabeth, he addressed her as "my royal queen," which a little while after he changed to "my noble queen." "What," said her Majesty, "am I ten groats worse than I was?" which pun so overwhelmed the preacher that he never preached a sermon again, but always read a homily. Prince Arthur, son of Henry VII., once resided in a moated manor-house here. Hearne, the antiquary, was born here.

1 m. further is *Shottesbrooke* (— Vansittart, Esq., a manor formerly held by providing charcoal to make the crown and regalia at a coronation. Its owner in the reign of William Rufus was Alward the goldsmith. The park contains the most beautiful Gothic Ch. in the county; it is pure Dec., and quite a miniature cathedral, cruciform, surmounted by a spire. The fine tracery of the E. window especially deserves notice, and also the external masonry of square close-jointed flint. The ch. was built 1337, by Sir William Tressel, who also founded a college here. He lies in the N. transept, beneath a richly-wrought canopy of Gothic arches, and, according to Hearne, is "wrapt up in lead, with his wife in leather at his feet." His daughter Margaret, Lady Pembrugge, is buried near him, under a slab, with a fine brass. Here also is the tomb of Sir R. Powle, 1678, and of Sir T. Noke, "who for his great age and virtuous life was revered by all men, and commonly called Father Noke." His Latin epitaph is by Lady Hobby of Bisham, the learned sister of Lady Bacon and Lady Burleigh. In the churchyard is buried Dr. Dodwell, who here wrote his '*De Cyclis veterum*,' and his learned friend

Hearne, with the epitaph, "*Hic jacet peccatorum maximus. 1713.*"

"A little body of nonjuring friends were settled at Shottesbrooke; at their head was Francis Cherry of Shottesbrooke House, whose worth and hospitality, combined with gentle accomplishments and a handsome person, rendered him the idol of Berkshire. His house, in which he was able to make up 70 beds for the officers and soldiery who were quartered upon him in the Revolution, was always open to the deprived clergy, and became a complete hotel for friendship, learning, and distress. Bp. Ken divided his time between Shottesbrooke and Longleat House. Bowdler and his family were frequent guests, and Robert Nelson would frequently ride over from Lord Berkeley's at Cranford. Dr. Grabe always found a welcome there. Charles Leslie, disguised in regimentals, was concealed by Mr. Cherry for 6 months at a house belonging to him at White Waltham. The display of his horsemanship in the hunting-field would sometimes pique the emulation of King William, and Mr. Cherry, observing one day that he was closely pressed by the king, risked his life for the sake of breaking the usurper's neck, and plunged into a frightfully deep and broad part of the Thames, in the hope that William might be induced to follow. To the Princess Anne he would always pay the most particular attention, riding up to her calash; but when she assumed her father's crown the queen missed Mr. Cherry from her side, and pointed him out in the distance to her attendants, saying, 'There goes one of the honestest gentlemen in my dominions.'"—*Memoirs of the pious Robert Nelson.*

Local tradition tells, that when the architect of Shottesbrooke Ch. was laying the last stone on the top of the spire, he called for wine to

drink the king's health, and, after drinking it, he immediately fell to the ground, was dashed to pieces, and buried on the spot; also that a coffin-shaped stone was placed over his remains, the interjection "O! O!" which he uttered when dying, being the only thing engraven upon it.

31 m. *Twyford Junct. Stat.* [Hence there is a branch line to *Shiplake* (33½) and *Henley* (35½). *Inn*: Red Lion. See Rte. 8.]

The *Polehampton Charity* at Twyford, consisting of a chapel, school-house, and house for the chaplain and master, is due to the gratitude of Mr. Polehampton, a merchant (1720), who, having been found as an infant, on a cold night in December, half-famished and frozen, at a door in the village (of the house opposite the school), was taken in, cared for, and instructed in those rudiments of learning which laid the foundation of his future prosperity.

On rt. is *Roscombe* (or *Field-Roscombe*, formerly *Rothescamp*), where, in a large and quaint old house opposite the ch., destroyed 20 yrs. ago, William Penn died, July 30, 1718.

1½ m. *Sonning*. See Rte. 8.

[3 m. l. (passing *Hurst*, where Archbp. Laud was wont to preach) is *Bear Wood* (J. Walter, Esq., M.P.), a large and beautiful park, retaining much of its wild forest character, interspersed with masses of rhododendrons, which render it a blaze of colour in spring, and containing a large artificial lake. The *House* contains a fine collection of pictures, chiefly of the Dutch school of the 17th centy. The most remarkable are—

Drawing Room.—*Paul Potter*, a cattle-piece, painted on wood, signed and dated 1647. "At a certain distance the effect of the animals is that of life itself, and the carefulness of execution is such—for instance in the ear of the light-coloured cow—that the delusion of reality is increased on the closest

inspection."—*W. Berghem*, 2 landscapes with figures and cattle. *Karel Dujardin*. *Peter de Hoghe*, a Dutch garden with figures. *Sasso Ferrato*, Virgin and Child. *Gonzales Coques*, a family group in a landscape: "one of the finest works of this rare and charming master."—*W. Isaac* and *Adrian von Ostade*.

Dining Room.—*Jacob Ruysdael*, view of the castle of the Counts of Bentheim on the Lower Rhine. There are repetitions of this subject at Dresden and Amsterdam, which are far surpassed by this, which was probably painted as a commission for Count Bentheim himself. *Adrian von Ostade*, Adoration of the Shepherds: "tone golden and clear, execution spirited and careful."—*W. Isaac von Ostade*, peasants passing a ford: "remarkable for clear and glowing colouring and spirited execution."—*W.*

Middle Drawing Room.—*Francesco Albano*, Christ appearing to the Magdalen. *Jan van der Heyden*, a landscape, with figures by *A. van de Velde*. *Frans Mieris*, portrait of a young painter holding a palette, signed 1667. *Nicholas Maas*, portrait of an old woman seated.

Hall.—*J. Baptista Weenix*, a seaport: "a rich picture, clear in colour, and careful in execution."—*W. Abraham Mignon*, a fruit-piece. *Johann George Plazer*, "2 pictures, richly finished, but crude and unmannered."

The *Ch.* was built by the late John Walter, Esq., who is buried in the churchyard, beneath a gigantic tomb. Hence there is a beautiful view over the surrounding country. On the slope of the hill are *almshouses* for aged servants of 'The Times.']

Leaving Twyford, the line crosses

"The Loddon slow, with verdant alders crown'd,"

which occupies two principal channels, here both fordable, which give

the name to the village. About 2 m. below, "the fair Lodona" falls into the Thames; according to Drayton—

"Contributing her store,
As still we see the much runs ever to the
more."

On leaving the Sonning cutting, on rt. 1 m. is *Holme Park* (R. Palmer, Esq., long M.P. for Berks). The rly. again enters the valley of the Thames at the point where

"Clear Kennet overtakes
His lord, the stately Thames,"

and traverses the rich alluvial meads to Reading.

On l., near the line, is *Earley Court* (Viscount Sidmouth), where Lord Stowell died; and beyond, on the hill, now enclosed and built upon, is the site of *White Knights*, built on the site of a hospital for lepers by Sir H. Englefield, ob. 1780. It was a seat of the grandfather of the present Duke of Marlborough, who rendered its gardens celebrated by their valuable collection of foreign trees.

rt. *Bulmershe Court* (I. J. Wheble, Esq.), once the residence of Viscount Sidmouth, the Prime Minister, who here often entertained Pitt, Windham, &c.

The Kennet is crossed just above its influx to the Thames.

On approaching Reading the Guildford and Reigate Rly. is seen on l.; near the stat. the huge castellated *County Gaol*, where the solitary system of confinement has been carried out with good effect, as described in Field's 'Prison Discipline'; and between it and the Roman Catholic chapel (built by Pugin) the fragmentary ruins of the Abbey. On rt., beyond the Thames, are seen the woods and house of Caversham, the place where Charles I. was permitted by the Parliament to meet and spend two days with his children, July 3, 1647.

36 m. READING JUNCT. STAT.

Hence branch railways go off on l.

to Basingstoke, 15½ m. &c.; to Guildford, 25 m., and Reigate, 44 m.; to Newbury, 17 m., and Hungerford, 25½ m. (Rte. 4.)

Reading (Inn: Railway Hotel), Pop. 19,528, is situated on the Kennet, 1½ m. above its junction with the Thames. It is a very flourishing town, which has doubled its pop. within the last centy., but possesses few objects of interest, being now chiefly remarkable for its Dissenters, its Gaol, and for Huntley and Palmer's manufacture of biscuits.

The name is said to be derived from *Redin*, fern, which grew here in great abundance. The earliest mention of Reading is in 868, when Ivor the Dane fixed his head-quarters there. Of the Norm. castle, which was held by Stephen, not a trace remains, except in the name of *Castle Street*. In 1643 the town endured a memorable siege from the Parliamentary army under Essex, when the garrison, under Sir A. Ashton, surrendered after 10 days: the entrenchments of Essex may still be traced across the valley. An alarm at Reading, in 1688, that the disbanded Irish soldiers of James II. were ravaging and murdering wherever they went, raised such a panic, that it received the name of "the Irish Cry." The only man who fell in the Revolution of 1688 was killed in a skirmish in the market-place of Reading, on a Sunday morning, when James's soldiers were put to flight. This anniversary, and the belief that the Irish soldiers intended to massacre the inhabitants during divine service, were long commemorated by the ringing of bells and the ballad of the 'Reading Skirmish,' which told how—

"Five hundred Papishes came there
To make a final end
Of all the town in time of prayer,
But God did them defend."

In a house in Broad St., now destroyed (engraved in Man's 'Hist. of Reading'), Abp. Laud was born,

the son of a clothier: in his prosperity he founded charities for his native town, which still remain. Sir Thomas White, the founder of St. John's College at Oxford, was also a native of Reading, and established 2 scholarships in his new foundation for his native place. "John Bunyan was well known at Reading, where he sometimes went through the streets dressed like a carter, with a long whip in his hand, to avoid detection. In a visit to that place he contracted the disease which brought him to the grave." John Blagrave the mathematician, Joseph Blagrave the astrologer, Merrick the poet, and Judge Talfourd, were also natives of Reading.

The primary cause of the prosperity of this borough was the wealth of its abbey; but as early as Edward I. it was famous for its cloth manufacture, destroyed in the Civil Wars: it still remains a great mart for corn and agricultural produce.

St. Lawrence, the principal *Ch.*, near the market-place, has a tall flint tower with detached tourelles, good Perp. windows, and a restored E. E. chancel. It once possessed a silver gridiron, containing a relic of St. Lawrence. Queen Elizabeth frequently attended service here in the canopied pew of the Knollys family. The N. aisle contains the monument of Blagrave, having his effigy in a cloak and ruff, holding a globe and a quadrant, with the epitaph—

"Johannes Blagravus
Totus mathematicus
Cum matre sepultus."

He left a curious legacy for the encouragement of Reading maidservants:—The churchwardens of each of the 3 parishes were to choose maidservants of 5 years' standing, who were to meet and throw dice for a purse of 10*l.* on Good Friday. "This is lucky money," says Ashmole; "for I never yet heard of a maid who got the 10*l.*, but soon after found a good husband."

St. Mary's, founded on the site of a nunnery built by Elfrida, to expiate the murder of her stepson, was formerly called the Minster, which name still remains in that of the adjoining street. The ch. is said to have been rebuilt (1551) with the materials of the abbey and friary. The chequered tower of flint and ashlar, the monument of William Kendrick and his wife, and the old poorbox merit notice. Near this is *the Oracle*, of Jacobean architecture, the ancient Woolmerchants and Dyers' Hall, founded by John Kendrick in 1626. It derives its name from Orchel (*Rocella tinctoria*), a lichen brought from the Canary Isles, and used in dyeing.

But the chief object of interest in Reading is its Benedictine Abbey, now a mere shell, but formerly the third in size and wealth of all English abbeys. Founded by Henry I., 1121, it was endowed by him with the privilege of coining, and he further secured its fortunes by presenting it with the hand of St. James the Apostle, which had been given to him by his daughter Matilda. Here he held a parliament in 1184; and in 1185 received Heraclius, patriarch of Jerusalem, who presented him with the keys of the Holy Sepulchre and the royal banners of the city. When he died at Rouen of eating stewed lampreys, his heart, tongue, brains, and bowels were buried there, and the rest of his body was sent to Reading Abbey, where his 1st wife, "good Queen Molde," was probably buried already, and where his 2nd wife Adeliza was buried afterwards. His daughter Matilda, wife of the Emperor Henry IV. and mother of Henry II., was likewise interred here. Her epitaph is recorded by Camden:—

"Magna ortu, majorque viro, sed maxima
partu;
Hic jacet Henrici filia, sponsa, parens"

Here also was buried William, the
c 3

eldest son of Henry II. Some of these royal tombs were destroyed and the bones "thrown out" at the dissolution in 1539, when Hugh Faringdon the abbot was hung, drawn, and quartered for his obstinate resistance. The magnificent monument of Henry I. was destroyed temp. Edward VI.

Many parliaments were held here, as well as the convocation for the trial of Longchamp Bishop of Ely, regent during the absence of Richard I.; and two ecclesiastical councils—one under the legate Pandulph in the reign of John, the other under Archbishop Peckham in 1270. Here also Richard II. was reconciled to his nobles in 1389, through the intervention of John of Gaunt. Henry VIII. converted the abbey into a palace, often residing there himself. It was afterwards frequently occupied by the sovereign till its destruction in the great rebellion. "The ruins, though stripped, by destroyers of more than ordinary patience and industry, of almost every stone which cased the walls, still, though built only of small flints, defy the injuries of time and weather, and have more the appearance of rocks than of the work of human hands."—*Englefield*. Huge masses of the stone were used in building the hospital of the Poor Knights at Windsor; others by Gen. Conway in a bridge across the Wargrave road. Among the remains still standing are a portion of the great hall in which the parliaments were held, and where the marriage of Edward IV. with Elizabeth Woodville was first made public; and of the ch., dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, which once contained the royal monuments, and in which John of Gaunt was married to Blanche Plantagenet in 1359. The foundation of a Norm. apsidal chapel may still be seen at the E. end of the Roman Catholic chapel, into the walls of which

many Norm. fragments have been built.

In the large square called the *Forbury* (suburb, *Vor-bury*) is the *Abbey Gateway*, visible from the Rly., a large circular arch in a massy square tower patched with brickwork. Within the brick shell of the *Abbey Mill*, on a branch of the Kennet, just behind this gate, are several Trans.-Norm. arches—one with the zigzag. In the Forbury, close to St. Lawrence's Ch., is the *Grammar-School* (forming part of the Town-hall), at which Archbishop Laud was educated, and of which the master, Julius Palmer, was martyred in 1556. This school has lately flourished under the well-known Dr. Valpy, the late headmaster. The *County Hospital* has a fine Ionic portico.

Fuller tells the story of Henry VII. and the Abbot of Reading, how, "As the King was hunting in Windsor Forest, having lost his way, he was invited to the Abbot's table, where he passed for one of the royal guard. A sirloin of beef was placed before him, on which the King laid on so lustily as not disgracing one of that place for which he had been mistaken. 'Well fare thy heart,' quoth the Abbot, 'for here, in a cup of sack, I remember the health of his grace your master.' I would give 100 pounds on condition that I could feed so lustily on beef as you do. Alas! my weak and squeeze stomach will hardly digest the wing of a small rabbit or chicken.' The King pleasantly pledged him, and departed undiscovered. Some weeks after the Abbot was sent for, clapt into the Tower, kept close prisoner, and fed for a short time on bread and water; yet not so empty was his body of food as his mind was filled with fears, making many suspicions to himself when and how he had incurred the King's displeasure. At last a sirloin of beef was set before him, when he verified the pro-

verb that two hungry meals make a glutton. In springs King Henry, out of a private lobby where he had placed himself. 'My lord,' quoth the King, 'deposit presently your 100 pounds in gold, or else no going hence all the daies of your life. I have been your physician to cure you of your squeeze stomach, and here, as I deserve, I demand my fee for the same.' The Abbot down with his dust, and, glad he escaped so, returned to Reading, as somewhat lighter in purse, so much more merry in heart, than when he came thence."

At the N.W. extremity of the town, in Friary Street, are the remains of the *Friary*, founded 1233 for Grey Friars Minor: the walls of the ch. remain, with the skeleton of a fine Dec. W. window: the arches and side-windows of the aisles are also good.

An old *bridge* over the Thames leads from Reading to Caversham in Oxfordshire. A fisherman's hut upon its central arch covers a chapel dedicated to the Virgin. "On an island below it, now a verdant meadow, was fought a wager of battle between Robert de Montfort and Henry de Essex, in the presence of King Henry II." The latter fell, and was carried wounded by the monks into the abbey, where, as he was too much ashamed to reappear in the world, he afterwards became a monk.

Three-Mile Cross, 3 m. on the Basingstoke road, was the residence of Miss Mitford, who has described it in 'Our Village.' Her 'Recollections of a Literary Life' is also full of local descriptions. She afterwards lived at *Swallowfield*, where she died, Jan. 1855, and is buried in the churchyard under a lofty cross.

The course of the Rly. from Reading to Pangbourne is exceedingly pretty. It is near and often close to the Thames, on the slopes of the *chalk-hills*, and here and there,

through a gap, the river is seen flowing among the green lawns of its well-wooded valley. On the opposite Oxfordshire bank is *Maple-durham*, the fine old mansion of the Blounts (Rte. 8). The line passes through the grounds of *Purley Hall*, remarkable as having been built by Law, the South-Sea schemer, and as having been the residence of Warren Hastings during his memorable trial. In the ch. is a monument by *Nollekens* to Antony Stoner, and a rich Norm. font.

4½ m. *Pangbourne Stat. Inns*: Elephant; George, better of the two. Much resorted to by anglers and artists. This is one of the most picturesque villages on the Thames, and is described Rte. 8. On the opposite side of the river is *Whitchurch*, connected with Pangbourne by a wooden toll-bridge. Hence, or from Goring, a charming water excursion may be made down the Thames to Maidenhead, Rte. 8.

1. 1½ m. *Tidmarsh*, whose ch. has a fine Norm. door and a remarkable hexagonal chancel. Close by is Tidmarsh House (J. Hopkins, Esq.).

[1. 4 m. *Bradfield*, remarkable for *St. Andrew's College*, founded by the munificence of the Vicar, the Rev. T. Stevens, opened as a grammar-school 1850, and enrolled as a foundation-school 1859, for 16 founder's boys and 153 commoners. It is a picturesque building, and contains a good dining-hall, with stained-glass windows. The ch., which has been beautifully restored, has a fine chancel in the E. E. style, and some good stained glass. There is a way hence to Aldworth, through winding lanes, frequently bordered by old yews and hollies, and across the picturesque wooded common of *Ash-hampstead*, where the manor of Hart-ridge was held by keeping a goss-hawk for the King.]

1 rt. *Whitchurch House* (Colonel Gardiner).

1. The handsome lodge-gates of

Basilden Park (T. Morrison, Esq.). It was the seat of the Fanes (Viscts. Fane of Ireland) from 1718-66, whence it passed to the Sykes family, and lately by purchase to its present owners.

It is now remarkable for the works of art which it contains, of which the following are worth notice:—

Hall.—A quadrangular Roman altar from the Strawberry-Hill collection, ornamented with a bas-relief of the death of Opheltes; a landscape by *Turner*, in the style of Claude, "a chef-d'œuvre of this great master."

Octagon.—*Wm. Hilton*, scene from Milton's 'Comus'; *Sir Chas. Eastlake*, Flight of Francesco Carrara, Duke of Padua, and his Duchess, from Giov. Galeazzo Visconti; *Turner*, a landscape; *Collins*, the Fisherman's Farewell; *Webster*, the Sick Girl; *Hogarth*, the Punch Club, a well-known picture, showing the various effects of the beverage; *Pickersgill*, portrait of Alex. von Humboldt; *Wilkie*, a young girl confessing (Rome, 1827); *Stanfield*, Italian sea-coast; *Hilton*, Penelope recognising Ulysses.

Library.—*N. Poussin*, Bacchanalian scene, "one of the finest specimens of the master"; *Rembrandt*, a portrait, supposed to be his daughter; *Rubens*, the Virgin and Child, with St. Joseph, "in a powerful transparent golden tone"; *Parmigianino*, Cupid, formerly in the Pal. Barberini at Rome; a fine bronze statue of a Mænad.

Pink Drawing-Room.—*Leonardo da Vinci*, half-length female figure; over mantelpiece, a bas-relief in ivory by *François du Quesnoy*.

Oak Room.—*Teniers*, an old woman of Antwerp with a doctor; interior of a stable; *Guercino*, St. Sebastian pierced with arrows; *Vandyke*, portrait of Charles I.; portraits of two ladies seated, from *Strawberry Hill*; *Sir Joshua Rey-*

nolds, his own portrait; *Poussin*, two landscapes; *Watteau*, a group of ladies and gentlemen listening to the guitar of Pierrot; *Hobbema*, a cottage and trees—"its effect is equally powerful and transparent"; *Dujardin*, the Farrier's Shop; *Gysels*, dead game; *Backhuysen*, a sea-piece; *A. von Ostade*, room in a tavern after dinner; *Van de Velde*, *Paul Potter*, *Both*, landscapes.

School-Room.—*Harlowe*, the Trial of Catherine of Arragon; *Greuze*, study for a picture in the Louvre.

At *Lower Basilden* is the ch., whose chancel is a good example of flint walling.

At Basilden the course of the Thames bends considerably to the W., and approaches the foot of the chalk-range. In consequence of this the Rly. crosses the river into Oxfordshire; and passing *Goring Stat.* in Oxon, with its fine old ch. (described Rte. 8), it recrosses the river by 2 brick arches of 62 ft. span, at *Moulsoford*, which was once the residence of Bishop Barrington.

1. 2 m. from Goring Stat., and joined to Goring village by a wooden bridge, is the pretty village of *Streatley* (Rte. 8).

[4½ m. S. of Goring Stat. (no conveyance), high among the hills, is *Aldworth Ch.*, containing 9 very important and curious stone monumental effigies, 6 knights in armour (5 with legs crossed, and 6 or 7 ft. in stature), and 2 females; 6 of these figures are under enriched Dec. canopies; 2 are altar-tombs. They represent members of the family De la Beche, lords of this manor temp. Edward II. and III., the last of whom, Sir Nicholas, was tutor to the Black Prince, 1347. Queen Elizabeth is said to have ridden on a pillion behind the Earl of Leicester, all the way from Ewelme, to inspect these celebrated tombs. "In the E. end of ye ycle did hang a Table fairly written in Parchment, of all ye names of ye

family of De la Beche; but ye Earle of Leicester, coming with ye Queen Elizabeth in progresse, tooke it down to show it her, and it was never brought againe."—*Symonds's Diary*.

"The common people call the statue under the outside of the ch., John Everafraid; and say further that he gave his soul to the Devil, if ever he was buried either in church or churchyard, so he was buried under the church wall, under an arch." The same story is still current among the villagers, who call 3 of the other statues, John Long, John Strong, and John Neverafraid. The 5 cross-legged effigies are Crusaders, who must have died before the end of the 13th cent., and were probably Sir Robert de la Beche, Sir John and William his sons, and Thomas and William his grandsons, who all died before 1310, and may all have been personally engaged in the Holy Wars. Sir Robert was probably the founder of the ch., and his statue would be that under the S. wall. Philip de la Beche, his grandson, founded the chancel and S. aisle, and he doubtless erected the 5 cross-legged effigies to his ancestors. The 2 tombs on the S. side may be presumed to be Sir Philip and Jane his wife, and that in the centre of the ch. to be his son Sir John. The other effigies on the same tomb are doubtless Sir Nicholas and his wife Margaret, the last of the family."—*Hewitt's Hundred of Compton*.

In the churchyard is an old Yew whose trunk measures 9 yards in circumference. Nothing remains of the Castle de la Beche but the name in the "Beche Farm."

On re-entering Berks, the Rly. reaches,

47½ m. Wallingford Road Stat.
rt. Wallingford 3 m.; l. E. Ilsley 7 m.

WALLINGFORD (*Inn*: Lamb, good;

Pop. 8000) is a very ancient town, which was called by the Britons Gualhen, or "the old fort," a name which it afterwards well deserved. The place is still enclosed by Roman earthworks; and a lofty *agger*, defended on the exterior by a wet ditch, encloses the town and forms 3 sides of a parallelogram, of which the Thames is the 4th. It is cut through by embasures attributed to Prince Rupert. The town was destroyed by the Danes in 1006, but rose again to prosperity; and Sweyn, their King, was born here, 1013. The Conqueror visited the Saxon Wigod in the castle, and married his heiress to Robert d'Oyley, who founded Oxford Castle and strengthened that of Wallingford. This castle was of great importance as a fortress during the stormy ages which followed. Hither the Empress Matilda, mother of Henry II., fled through the snow, after her escape from Oxford Castle, to Brian Fitzcount, its owner by his marriage with the heiress of Robert d'Oyley. She was pursued by Stephen, who, in 1153, built a castle at Crowmarsh, on the opposite side of the river, in order to blockade her more easily. At length Henry II. came to the rescue, when the treaty of Wallingford was settled, which put an end to the war. Brian Fitzcount died in the Crusades, and his wife in a convent, so the castle reverted to the Crown, and Henry II. held a general council here on the Easter after his accession. Here also John held a conference with his barons, and gave the castle to his son Richard Earl of Cornwall, who was born here. Edward II. presented it to Piers Gaveston in 1308, who, at a tournament held here in 1309, gave the nobles the first cause for that hatred which soon led him to seek this castle as a refuge, and eventually cost him his life. Joan, the Fair Maid of Kent, widow of the Black Prince, died at Wallingford.

It was afterwards granted to the Queen Dowager Catherine, widow of Henry V.

Leland, in the 16th centy., describes the castle as "sore yn ruine;" but Camden, writing somewhat later, says that its size and magnificence were still such as to amaze him, coming there, as a lad, from Oxford. The present remains are small, and are chiefly confined to a fragment of wall in a nursery-garden, and an oriel window overhanging the river. Gough says that the outwork of the castle is evidently Roman, the stones being laid herring-bone fashion, as at Silchester. Wallingford was the last place in Berkshire which held out for Charles, and was taken by Fairfax in 1646. Of the 14 churches mentioned by Leland, 3 only remain. *St. Mary's* is late Perp.; on its tower is a mounted figure said to represent King Stephen. *St. Leonard's* (rebuilt 1849, by *Hakewell*, except the N. wall) has a Norm. doorway. *St. Peter's*, near the bridge, contains the grave of Sir William Blackstone, to whom a modern Gothic monument has been erected on its S. wall. The ugly spire was designed by him. His grandson has built a handsome modern house beyond the river. Wallingford was much injured by the diversion of the London and Oxford road, and is now a place of little consequence.

On the other side of the river, in Oxfordshire, is the interesting Norm. ch. of Crowmarsh. Ewelme (described Rte. 19) is 4 m. distant.

rt. 1½ m. from Wallingford Rly. Stat. is Cholsey (the "Island of Ceol"), where was formerly an expiatory monastery, founded, 986, by Ethelred for the murder of Edward the Martyr. It was granted by Henry I. as a country palace to the abbots of Reading. There still remains a very ancient stone barn, 51 ft. high, 54 ft. wide, and 303

long. A tablet on the wall records the fact that "In this barn John Lanesley threshed, for Mr. Joseph Hopkins, 5 quarters 7 bushels and a half of wheat in 13 hours, on March 15, 1747."

On rt. appear 2 conspicuous conical hills, capped by tufts of trees. They are *Sinodun Hill*, crowned with earthworks, and *Brightwell Barrow*, in Oxfordshire. The rly. here crosses a plain known as *Hagbourne Marsh*.

53 m. *Didcot Junction Stat.* Here is a small ch., chiefly Perp., with good windows, both Dec. and Perp. The churchyard contains some fine yew-trees and a picturesque stone cross.

rt. The *Branch Rly. to Oxford*, 10 m., and *Birmingham*, 74½ m., by Abingdon, 3 m. (Rte. 15).

[On the rt. are the churches of Blewbury, 4½ m.; East Ilsley, 7½ m.; Harwell, 2½ m.; Hagbourne, 2 m. (see Rte. 6). On the l. Dorchester, 7 m.; Long Wittenham, 3 m., which has some good Dec. and E. E. parts, and a peculiar S. transept, E. Dec., with a singular armed figure forming the sill of an enriched piscina. The font has an E. E. cylindrical bowl of lead. *Little Wittenham*, 4 m., contains the tomb of Sir William Dunch and his wife, the daughter of Sir Henry Cromwell, and aunt of the Protector.]

56½ m. *Steventon Stat.* The village is ancient and picturesque. It is divided by the Rly.; and, being subject to floods, is intersected by a raised causeway of coral rag and grey-wethers, picked up near this. From hence may be visited, on l., Hanwell, and the interesting village of East Hendred, 3½ m.; on rt., Milton, 13½ m.; Sutton Courtenay, 3 m.; Drayton, 2 m.—which are all described in Rte. 6.

An artist might pick up many picturesque bits in the villages under the Berkshire downs. "They are queer, straggling, old-fashioned

places, the houses being dropped down without the least regularity, in nooks and out-of-the-way corners, by the sides of shadowy lanes and footpaths, each with its patch of garden. They are built chiefly of good grey stone, and thatched; though within the last few years red brick cottages have multiplied, for the vale is beginning to manufacture largely both brick and tiles. There are lots of waste ground by the side of the road in every village, amounting often to village greens, where feed the pigs and ganders of the people; and these roads are old-fashioned, homely roads, very dirty and badly made, and hardly endurable in winter, but still pleasant jog-trot roads running through the great pasture-lands, dotted here and there with little clumps of thorns, where the sleek kine are feeding, with no fence on either side of them, and a gate at the end of the field, which makes you get out of your gig (if you keep one), and gives you a chance of looking about you at every quarter of a mile."—*Tom Brown's Schooldays*.

At *Lockinge* (Col. Lloyd Lindsay), on l., between Steventon and Wantage, is a pretty dell in the chalk-marl, at the head of which rises a copious spring.

60 m. *Wantage Road Stat.* 1. 2½ m. is WANTAGE, or *Wanting* (meaning the "Place of Moles," from Want, once the Anglo-Saxon, and still the Berkshire, for a mole). *Inn*: Bear. A small town of 3300 Inhab., celebrated as the birthplace of *King Alfred*, who left this ancient patrimony of the Saxon kings by will, A.D. 900, to his wife Ealswitha. The manor afterwards passed through a series of noble hands, among which were Baldwin de Bethune, William de Valence, Hugh Bigod, Fulk Fitzwarine, and the Bouchiers Earls of Bath. Bishop *Butler*, the author of the 'Analogy,'

was born here, 1692, in a house called the Priory, adjoining the churchyard, and was educated at the free grammar-school. Wantage is a curious old town, under the chalk range, but upon the greensand, and plentifully supplied with springs. It was remarkable for its sacking, and still is so for its corn-market.

The beautifully-restored *Ch. of SS. Peter and Paul* is large and curious; cruciform, with a central tower, open below, and resting upon 4 magnificent Dec. piers. The nave is E. E., with Perp. clerestory and aisles. The transepts are Dec.; the chancel Perp., with a restored Dec. E. window; the font large, E. E. There is a fine alabaster monument of Sir William Fitzwarine, a Knight of the Garter, and his lady, of the 14th centy.; and a good brass of Sir Ivo Fitzwarine, 1414. The site of the Saxon palace in which Alfred was born is supposed to be an enclosure called the *High Garden*, on the S. side of the brook (a branch of the Ock) which runs through the town. The adjoining orchard is still called *Court Close*.

½ m. W. of the town, near a farmhouse called the Mead, are *King Alfred's Bath and Well*, the latter a basin of clear water, in a pretty dingle, formed by a number of small petrifying springs.

Wantage is remarkable for its schools. The *National School*, by Woodyer, is worth visiting from the drawings on its walls. The *Grammar-School*, built by a subscription raised at the jubilee in honour of Alfred, has a fine Norm. doorway, a relic of the original school, and the oldest object in the town. There is also a school for training girls for service; and *St. Mary's Home* for penitents, under the superintendence of the Sisters of Mercy.

Charles I. passed a night at the hamlet of Charlton in 1643 and 1644, in the house of the Wilmots.

On the l. of the Rly., beneath the chalk range, is a line of villages, and upon the W. various earthworks of Celtic origin.

62½ m. *Letcombe Regis*. The ch. late Norm.; tower with Perp. additions. The doors of the aisles are peculiar in the arrangement of their mouldings. The font is Norm. On the hill is the earthwork called Letcombe Castle. To *Letcombe Bassett*, 1 m. S., Dean Swift retired in April 1713; and during his residence there wrote his pamphlet, 'Free Thoughts on the Present State of Affairs.'

"By faction tir'd, with grief he waits awhile,
His great contending friends to reconcile,
Performs what friendship, justice, truth require;
What could he more, but decently retire?"

Letcombe is celebrated for its watercresses, which are sent up in large quantities to the London markets.

65 m. *Sparsholt*. A very curious ch. The tower is Dec.; the N. doorway of the nave rich and peculiar Norm., and the ironwork of the door seems to be original. The chancel is chiefly Dec., with a mailed effigy in a highly-finished Dec. recess. There is also another early effigy of wood; and in the S. transept 2 other wooden effigies on altar-tombs, ornamented at the sides with 9 figures of knights in different attitudes. All these effigies are of the 14th centy., and were painted and gilt. They are supposed to be memorials of the Achard family.

63½ m. *Faringdon Road Stat.*; rt. *Faringdon*, 5 m., described Rto. 7.

65 m., 1. 3 m., *Kingston Lisle* (3½ m. from Faringdon-Road Stat., long the seat of the old family De Lisle, Alice de Lisle having obtained licence to enclose a park here, 1336. *Kingston-Lisle House* (E. Atkins, Esq.) has a pretty glen in the park, and some fine old trees. ½ m. distant, in the valley under the downs, beside an old elm-tree,

is the famous *Blowing-Stone*, which is one of the chief natural curiosities of the county. It is a species of red sandstone, and is about 3 ft. high, 3 ft. 6. in. broad, and 2 ft. thick. It is pierced with holes on each side, of which 7 are in the front, 3 at the top, and several behind; at the N. end is also an irregular hollow place. The sound produced by a person blowing into any of these holes resembles the bellowing of a calf, and can be heard in fine weather at Faringdon Clump, 6 m. distant, while a person standing at the distance of a yard will distinctly feel the ground shake under his feet. If a small stick be pushed in at the hole at the top, it will come out at one at the back of the stone. A tradition exists in the neighbourhood that the stone was formerly used to give alarm on the approach of an enemy.

67 m. l. The beautiful *Ch. of Uffington* (founded by Facitus, abbot of Abingdon, 1105) rises picturesquely against the chalk downs. It may be reached either from Faringdon-Road or Shrivenham Stations. It is a large cruciform ch., chiefly of the earliest pointed architecture, with an octagonal central lantern-tower. "The chancel has 3 lancet windows with detached shafts, having bands and foliated caps; under these are 3 small circular openings with good mouldings; the side windows are also lancets with detached shafts, except one which is Dec.; the sedilia and piscina are fine examples of E. E.; the tower arches are fine and lofty E. E. On the E. side of the N. transept are 2 very remarkable recesses for altars, with high-pitched gable-roofs and 3 windows in each of a peculiar form, as if the heads of the windows were cut off by the slope of the roof, but evidently all original work: this example is believed to be unique. The S. transept is nearly the same as the N., but has

only one altar-recess. The S. doorway has a fine E. E. porch, with a groined vault and room over it, in which is an original fireplace and chimney."—*J. H. P.* The spire was destroyed by lightning, 1750. The name Uffington is Uffa's town; Uffa, King of the Saxons, having gained it, 780, by the conquest of Kinewulf, King of the Mercians. The place is minutely described in the opening chapter of 'Tom Brown's School-days.'

Behind the village is the *White-Horse Hill*, so called from the celebrated figure of that animal which is cut in its turf, and which has also "given its name to the vale upon which it has looked down these thousand years or more." The figure, which is exceedingly rude, and which certainly is not much like an actual horse, still bears a resemblance to the horse stamped on many Anglo-Saxon coins. It is cut on the N.W. face of the hill, and, being 374 ft. in length, is visible from a distance even of 15 m., when the afternoon sun is shining upon it. According to the local tradition of centuries, which is supported by Wise and by the modern Berkshire antiquaries, it is a memorial of the battle of *Æscendune*, when Ethelred and Alfred gained a great victory over the Danes, in which their King *Bogseeg* was slain. This is justly considered the great curiosity of the county; and the annual custom of Scouring the White Horse has been from early times the occasion of a rustic festival for the natives, attended by athletic games. This custom had died out in 1780, but was revived before 1858, when an unusually brilliant festival took place under the auspices of the late lamented E. Atkins, Esq., of Kingston Lisle, which gave rise to Mr. Hughes' story of the 'Scouring of the White Horse.' The ballad of the Scouring is a curious specimen of the *Berkshire* dialect:—

"The owld White Horse wants settlin to rights,
And the squire hev promised good cheer,
Zo we'll gee uu a scrape to kip un in shape,
And a'il last for many a year.

"A was made a lang lang time ago
Wi a good dale o' labour and pains,
By King Alferd the Great when he spwiled
their consate,
And caddled thay woshbirds the Danes.

"The Bleawin stwun in days gone by
Wur King Alferd's bugle harn,
And the tharnin tree you med plainly see,
As is called King Alferd's tharn.

"There'll be backsword play, and climmin
the powl,
And a race for a peg and a cheese,
And us thinks as his'n's a dummeil zowl
As dwent care for zich spwoorts as
these."

"Below the White Horse is a curious deep and broad gully called 'the Manger,' into one side of which the hills fall with a series of sweeping curves, known as 'the Giants' Stairs.' They are not a bit like stairs, but covered with short green turf and tender bluebells, and gossamer and thistle-down gleaming in the sun, and the sheep-walks running along their sides like ruled lines."—*Tom Brown*. The other side of the Manger is known as "the Dragon's Hill," where, according to local folk-lore, St. George killed the dragon, "whose blood made a pool on the top, and ran down the steps on the other side, where the grass has never grown since." The story is told by Job Cork, the Uffington shepherd-poet:

"Ah, zur, I can remember well
The stories the old folk do tell—
Upon this hill which here is seen,
Many a battle there have been.

"If it is true as I heard say,
King Gaarge did here the dragon slay,
And down below on yonder hill,
They buried him as I've heard tell."

The right name of the mound is conjectured to be *Pendragon's Hill*, a chief of that name (*Pendragon* meaning "the chief of kings") having been probably slain in battle and buried there.

At the summit of the hill, which is 893 ft. above the level of the sea, is the large oval camp known as *Uffington Castle*, 700 ft. in diameter from E. to W., and 500 from N. to S. It is surrounded by a high inner vallum, with a slighter one on the outside, which are considered by Camden and other authorities to be Danish. The views from it are very fine. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further N.W. is another camp called *Hardwell Castle*, nearly of a square form, and surrounded also by a double vallum; its dimensions 140 by 180 ft.

Following the hill, close to the ancient Ridgeway, the cromlech known as *Wayland Smith's Cave* is reached, marked by a spot of ground slightly raised, and a few wind-stricken trees. It consists of 3 large stones, with a 4th laid upon them, and several others scattered around. Its origin is wrapped in mystery. Wise and Gough suppose it to have been Danish, and even that it was the burial-place of King Bøge-seeg, slain at Æscundune; Lysons believes it to have been British. The local tradition that an invisible smith called Wayland had his abode on this spot, who would shoe a traveller's horse if left here for a short time, with a piece of money for payment, gave rise to one of the most striking scenes in Sir W. Scott's novel of 'Kenilworth.' It is believed that Wayland Smith's fee was sixpence, and that, unlike other workmen, he was offended if more was offered.

70 m. l., $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Compton*, at the foot of the hill which is crowned by *Hardwell Castle*. The picturesque *Ch.* contains a curious ancient stone seat. Beside it, nestled close under the hill-side, is a moated *Manor-house*, which possesses a quaint old terraced garden, with a fine dark yew-avenue, known as "The Cloister Walk."

71 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Shrivenham Stat.* rt. 1 m. *Shrivenham Ch.* is Perp.; the tower

and its 4 arches the only original parts, temp. Elizabeth. Within is a double row of circular columns and arches. It contains several monuments, including, 1. Sir John Wildman of Becket, 1693, who directed by his will "that, if his executors should think fit, there should be some stone of small price set near his ashes, to signify, without foolish flattery, to his posterity, that in that age lived a man who spent the best part of his days in prisons, without crimes, being conscious of no offence towards man, for that he so loved his God that he could serve no man's will, and wished the liberty and happiness of his country, and of all mankind." 2. John Wildman, his son, 1710, who "preferred confinement for many years with his father, who was a prisoner in the Isle of Scilly, in the reign of Charles II., to the full enjoyment of his liberty." 3. His adopted son, John Shute, afterwards the first Viscount Barrington, 1793, for 39 yrs. a distinguished member of the House of Commons. 4. Samuel Barrington, Admiral of the White, 1800, who was distinguished in the wars of 1741-56, especially by the capture of the French ship 'Count St. Florentine,' whose great white flag still hangs up in the ch. The Admiral's epitaph is by Mrs. Hannah More. Near the ch. are 6 *almshouses*, founded and endowed by Henry Marten the regicide.

Beckett (Viscount Barrington) is a fine mansion in the Tudor style, built by the present Viscount, 1831-4, from the designs of his brother-in-law, the Hon. Thomas Liddell, a large old manor-house, part of which had been burnt in the Civil Wars, being pulled down to make room for it. It contains some good family portraits by *Sir J. Reynolds* and *Sir T. Lawrence*, some fine landscapes by *Both*, and some interesting French miniatures, including two of Louis XIV., when young and old,

by *Petitôt*. Among the curiosities, are the Chessboard and men of Charles I., in the original velvet bag in which they were sold by the Parliament. The grounds are adorned by a large sheet of artificial water, which is overhung at one corner by a curious stone summer-house, built by Inigo Jones, which enjoys the reputation of being the oldest in England. It contains some handsome Delft dishes from Queen Mary's dairy.

Beckett, formerly called Becote, belonged to the Earls of Evreux, who gave it to the Priory of *Norion* in Normandy. It was seized in 1204 by King John, who occasionally resided here, as appears by a mandate to the Sheriff of Oxfordshire, signed by him at Beckett. The manor was afterwards held by a family who derived their name (De Beckote) from the place, and who held it by tenure of meeting the King whenever he should pass Fowyeare's Mill Bridge in Shrivenham, with two white capons in their hands, and saying, "Ecce Domine istos duos capones quos alias habebitis sed non nunc."

1 m. of Shrivenham (3 m.) is *Ashbury*, whose ch., chiefly Dec., has a good Norm. doorway. 4 m. *Ashdown Park* (Earl of Craven), strangely situated in a desolate spot, high up among the bleak downs. Tradition tells that a Craven, who was Lord Mayor of London, flying from the plague in the metropolis, rode on and on, till on these dreary downs he spied a solitary farm-house. There, for the first time, he felt he should be secure, and there he built a house. It is said that, in consequence of this, Ashdown was built with 4 avenues leading to the 4 quarters, and with windows on each side of the rooms, in order that, if the plague came in on one side, it might go out on the other. The existing house was built in the style of Coleshill, by Webb, the

nephew of Inigo Jones, who inherited all his plans. All the chimneys unite in two massive quadrangular piles on either side, while between them is a belvedere, having a cupola in the centre, containing a lantern, which is occasionally lighted as a beacon to guide travellers among these dreary hills. On the oak staircase are some of the stag's horns brought by Elizabeth of Bohemia from Germany; and there are portraits of her, of William Lord Craven, the devoted friend whom she is said to have married at the end of her life, of Prince Rupert, Prince Maurice, and the four Princesses, by *Honthorst*.

Lying on the turf around the house are the extraordinary stones known as the *Sarsden* (Saracen?) *Stones*, looking like a flock of sheep scattered under the trees, whence probably their name of *Grey Wethers*. They are remains of a tertiary stratum of Bagshot sand, indurated, with which the chalk was once overlaid. The stones of Stonehenge and Avebury are almost of the same formation. It is remarkable that the sides of the Downs, which are elsewhere clothed with short turf, are here covered with long grass. E. of the house is a small circular camp known as *Alfred's Castle*, which Aubrey says "was almost quite defaced" in his time, "by digging for the Sarsden stones to build my Lord Craven's house."

There is great reason to believe that upon these hills was fought the famous battle between Alfred and the Danes, and that Ashdown was the *Æscendune* of the Saxon chroniclers. Other places which claim the honour are Ilsey, Ashampstead, and Aston in the parish of Blewberry; but Ashdown is now generally believed to be the true one. "Wise suggests that the Danes held Uffington Castle; that Ethelred was in Hardwell camp, and Alfred

in Alfred's camp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the E., in which direction the battle must have rolled, as the Saxons slowly gained the day, is a place called the Seven Barrows, where are 7 circular burial-mounds, and several other large irregularly-shaped mounds, full of bones; the light soil which covers the chalk is actually black around them. The site agrees in all points with the description in the chroniclers; it is the proper distance from Reading; the name is the one used by the chroniclers—'Ashdown,' 'Mons Fraxini,' 'Æscundun;' it is likely that Æthelred would have fought somewhere hereabouts to protect Wantage, a royal burg and his birthplace, which would have been otherwise at the mercy of the enemy; and, lastly, *there* is carved the White Horse, which has been from time immemorial held to be a monument of the great victory of Ashdown." (*Scouring of the White Horse*.)

This famous battle took place early in the year 871, when, after a contest at Reading, in which the Pagans "had possession of the place of death," *i. e.* the victory, "King Æthelred and his brother Alfred fought the whole army of Pagans on Ashdown. The Danish army was in two bodies; in the one were Bøgseeg and Halfdene, the heathen kings; in the other were the earls. Things being so settled, the King remained a long time in prayer, hearing the mass, and said he would not leave it till the priest had done, or abandon the protection of God for that of men. And so he did, which afterwards availed him much with the Almighty, as we shall see in the sequel. But the Pagans came up quickly to the fight. Then Alfred, though holding a lower authority, could no longer support the troops of the enemy, unless he retreated or charged upon them *without waiting for his brother; so he marched out promptly with his*

men in a close column, and gave them battle." Alfred fought with the troops of the earls, and King Æthelred with the troops of the Kings, the Christians coming up from below, and the Pagans occupying the higher ground, where was a single stunted thorn-tree, "around which the opposing hosts came together, with loud shouts from all sides, the one to pursue their wicked course, the other to fight for their lives, their dearest ties, and their country. And when both hosts had fought long and bravely, at last the Pagans, by God's judgment, could no longer bear the attack of the Christians, and, having lost great part of their men, took to a disgraceful flight, and all the Pagan host pursued its flight, not only until night, but the next day, even until they reached the stronghold from which they had come out. The Christians followed, slaying all they could reach, until it became dark."

"And the flower of the Pagan youth was there slain, so that neither before nor since was ever such destruction known since the Saxons first gained Britain by their arms." "There fell in that battle King Bøgseeg ('slain by the spear of King Æthelred,' *Brompton*), and these earls with him; that old Earl Sidroc, to whom may be applied that saying, 'the ancient of evil days,' and Earls Sidroc the younger, Osberne, Frene, and Harold."—*Saxon Chronicles*.

1 m. beyond Shrivenham the line enters Wiltshire. (See *Handb. for Wilts.*)

ROUTE 4.

READING TO HUNGERFORD, BY NEW-BURY. BRANCH OF GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

25½ m.

On leaving Reading this Rly. branches off immediately to the l., to the S.W. parts of the county.

1. *Coleys*, the old seat of the Vachells, whose ancient mansion Coley House, was the residence of Charles I. for several days during the Civil Wars. At Coley Cross Edward VI. was met by the mayor and aldermen of Reading on his visit to the city, and presented with two yokes of oxen.

3 m. rt. 1½ m. *Tilehurst*. The ch. contains the monument of Sir Peter Vanlore, a rich merchant, 1627, and his lady. Lloyd, Bishop of Worcester, 1717, was a native of this place. *Calcott House* (Colonel Blagrove), "a large square brick house with wings, backed by splendid timber, and looking out due S. over the pleasantest of parks, full of dappled fallow deer, was the seat of 'the Berkshire lady,' whose story, which 'lives both in prose and verse,' is briefly this:—The John Kendrick who bequeathed 7500*l.* to build the Oracle at Reading, for the maintenance of the cloth trade, left a noble fortune, part of which descended to a beautiful Miss Kendrick, who is described as refusing numberless offers of marriage, till at length—

Being at a noble wedding
In the famous town of Reading,
A young gentleman she saw,
Who belonged to the law.

This is Benjamin Child, a barrister, to whom, on her return home, she writes a challenge to mortal combat in Calcott Park. Going thither, he finds a masked lady, who informs him that she is the challenger.

'So now take your choice,' says she,
'Either fight or marry me.'
Said he, 'Madam, pray what mean ye?
In my life I ne'er have seen ye;
Pray unmask, your visage show,
Then I'll tell you, ay or no.'

Lady.—'I will not my face uncover
Till the marriage rites are over;
Therefore take you which you will—
Wed me, Sir, or try your skill.'

He consents to marry the masked swordswoman; they drive to church in her coach, which is waiting, and the wedding takes place. Then they proceed to Calcott House, where she leaves him alone for 2 hrs. in 'a beautiful and fair parlour,' whither the steward comes to question him, as though he had an eye to the spoons. At length the mistress herself, entering, says,

Lady.—'Sir, my servants have related
That some hours you have waited
In my parlour; tell me who
In this house you ever knew?'

Cent.—'Madam, if I have offended,
It is more than I intended;
A young lady brought me here.'
'That is true,' said she, 'my dear.'

Then Benjamin Child finds himself happily married to the mistress of Calcott.

Now he 's clothed in rich attire
Not inferior to a squire—
Beauty, honour, riches, store!
What can man desire more?

In the parish register is recorded the birth of the 2 daughters of the Berkshire lady and Benjamin Child, in Sept. 1712 and Sept. 1713. It is but a century and a half ago that these events happened, in times more prosaic than our own."

5½ m. *Theale Stat.*, where there is a frightful modern ch. 1. 3 m. *Burghfield Ch.* contains an ancient wooden effigy of a Crusader.

rt. 1½ m. is *Englefield*, where, in the Park or Chase, Ethelwulf, alderman of Berks, fought with the Danes in 871, just before the battle of Æscendun. Simeon narrates that he urged on his soldiers, saying, "Though they attack us with the advantage of more men, we may despise them, for our commander

Christ is braver than they." At any rate the Pagans were discomfited, and two of their great sea-Earls, unaccustomed to riding on horseback, were unhorsed and slain. This ancient manor of the Englefields, from whom it derived its name, was forfeited to the Crown by the attainder of Sir J. Englefield, on charge of a plot to rescue Mary Queen of Scots. It was granted to Sir T. Walsingham, from whose family it passed to John Powlet, the famous Marq. of Winchester, who ended his days here after the demolition of Basing. The story of the Englefields is charmingly narrated by Lord Carnarvon in his 'Archæology of Berks,' 1859. The modern Tudor mansion has been recently built by its present possessor, Richard Benyon, Esq. It consists of a series of projecting bays, having a tower in the centre, and fine stone terraces beneath.

In the Park, which abounds in deer, is the little *Ch.*, lately restored by *Scott*. Here is the monument of the great Marq. of Winchester, inscribed with some verses by Dryden, and an epitaph which tells how he was "a man of exemplary piety towards God, and of inviolable fidelity towards his sovereign, in whose cause he fortified his house at Basing, and defended it against the rebels to the last extremity." In the S. aisle, in niches under the wall, are effigies of a cross-legged knight in mail, temp. Edw. II. (?), and a lady of the 14th centy. in wood. Near the altar, and separating it from the Englefield aisle, is a fine grey canopied tomb, from which the brasses have been removed. Several other monuments are curious, especially that of J. Englefield and all his family, 1605, and a bas-relief representing the death of Mrs. Mary Benyon, 1777. E. E. piers and arches support the roof, and in the N. aisle is a fine E. E. window, with detached shafts.

2 m. N. from hence is *Tidmarsh*, whose ch. has an enriched Norm. doorway, and a chancel which terminates in half a hexagon.

8½ m. *Aldermaston Stat.* rt. 2 m., on the top of the hill, at the end of the village-street, are the picturesque old lodges of *Aldermaston Court* (D. H. D. Higford Burr, Esq.), whose spired tower and roof are visible from the Rly. The *Park*, which is one of the wildest and most varied in this part of England, is 5 m. in extent, and contains 1000 acres; there is a broad lake, and the long sweeps of fern, which abound in deer, are studded with curious old thorn-trees, yews, and gigantic oaks. Several portions of the old lime avenues remain. The original house, mentioned by Evelyn as built "à la moderne," was partly burnt down, and partly destroyed at the erection of the present remarkable building; the inscription which adorned it,

Hump.	} Forster	} Vivimus et ædificamus uno animo, Utunque Deo et Fato consecravimus, 1636—
Anna		

and some of the old buildings, remain behind the present conservatory. The fine old oak staircase, engraved by Nash, which has a balustrade ornamented with figures, is preserved in the present house, a modern Elizabethan mansion, built by *Hardwick*, 1851, which contains a great deal of very fine old tapestry and curious carved furniture collected at Venice. The windows of the Library contain the stained glass from the old Hall, representing the arms of its former possessors, the Forsters, and their alliances with the families of Delamare, Sandes, Hongerford, Barrett, Kingsmill, Harpsden, Milborne, Achard, and Popham.

The manor was granted to Robert Achard by Henry I. (Queen Matilda being witness). The last of the Achards died in 1353, leaving a daughter who brought the estate by marriage to Sir Thomas Delamare.

His granddaughter and heiress married Sir George Forster, whose family lived here till 1711. The last female of the family married Lord Stawell, whose only daughter married Ralph Congreve, Esq. "A memorial of this Lord Stawell exists in the coronet inwoven in the ornaments of the beautiful iron gates; almost the only memorial he has left, except the tradition of his insatiable love of gambling, which reduced his estate to an inalienable residence, and gave rise to the local proverb, "When clubs are trumps, Aldermaston House shakes."

In the Park, close to the house, is the *Ch.*, entered at the W. end by a fine Norm. doorway. On the S. is the large and beautiful alabaster monument of Sir George Forster, 1526, and his lady, with 11 sons in armour, and 8 daughters in the angular headresses of that period, under Gothic canopies round the side; the knight's feet rest upon a hind, his crest (a Hind's Head is still the sign of the village Inn); and a tiny dog bites the gown of the lady. Behind this tomb is a chapel, in which the position of the ancient altar is occupied by the tomb of Mr. Congreve.

1½ m. S. of Aldermaston is the Roman Amphitheatre of *Silchester*, the largest in Britain except that of *Dorchester*, measuring 50 yds. by 40. It is just within the boundary of Berks, but is described with *Silchester* in *Handb. for Hants*.

[1. 1½ m. *Padworth*. This manor was held, from an early period, by the Courdrays, on the tenure of providing a sailor to manage the ropes of the Queen's ship whenever she went to Normandy. The little *Ch.*, formerly a very interesting specimen of enriched Norm. architecture, has been terribly injured and white-washed by the present vicar. There is a fine Norm. arch on the N. Close by is *Padworth House* (C. D. Griffith, Esq.).

1½ m. further, on a thickly-wooded eminence, approached by a picturesque lane, is *Ufton Court*, described by Pope in his letters, and the house of Arabella Fermor, celebrated by him in his 'Rape of the Lock,' under the name of Belinda. The house has been much injured, and is now divided into several habitations; the variety of its gables and the dark projecting porch of carved oak render it still very picturesque. Behind the house is a raised terrace where Arabella must often have walked, with steps leading down into a flower garden which still retains its original form. Below the terrace is a subterranean passage communicating with the dining-room. The hall retains its beautiful ceiling with pendants, and its black and white chequered pavement; there is "a haunted staircase," and upstairs in the long passages are a number of trap-doors and secret chambers in the depth of the wall which afforded protection to Catholic priests during the persecution. Rooms called "the Chapel" and "the Priests' Vestry" are still shown in the top of the house.

The old *Barn* should be observed—its fine timber roof, and the peculiar ornament in the windows. Near it is a magnificent old oak-tree.]

10½ m. *Woolhampton Stat.* The *ch.* contains a curious font. rt. 1 m. *Beenham*. Stackhouse, author of the 'History of the Bible,' was vicar of this parish, and is buried in the *ch.* He was a learned and remarkable man, but his life presented a sad picture of the consequences of intemperance. "He would often stray down to a public-house called Jack's Booth, on the Bath road, and stay there for 2 or 3 days at a time; it is even said that a great part of his History was written in an arbour at the bottom of the garden. He would come up from hence on a Sunday morning, and ask pardon of God in the pulpit."

for his folly and wickedness, and warn his congregation against the vice of drunkenness, yet he would probably in a week or two yield to the same temptation."

[3 m. N. is *Bucklebury*, granted in 1539 to John Winchcombe, son of Jack of Newbury, who built a fine Elizabethan manor-house here, now destroyed. The great Lord Bolingbroke married a descendant of his, and resided at Bucklebury, where he received a visit from Swift in 1711, which the latter thus describes in a letter to Stella:—"Mr. Secretary was a perfect country-gentleman at Bucklebury: he smoked tobacco with one or two neighbours; he inquired after the wheat in such a field; he went to visit his hounds, and knew all their names; he and his lady saw me up to my chamber just in the country-fashion. His house is just in the midst of 3000*l.* a-year he had by his lady, who is descended from Jack of Newbury, of whom books and ballads are written; and there is an old picture of him in the room."

The ch. has a beautiful Norm. doorway with zigzag mouldings, and contains a number of monuments of the Winchcombes. In the churchyard is a fine old yew-tree.

1 m. further N. is *Stanford*, whose ch. contains the brass of Margaret Dyneley, 1444.]

13½ m. *Thatcham Stat.* The ch. is old, and has a fine Norm. arch.

17 m. *NEWBURY STAT.* Omnibuses into the town. *Inn*: Pelican, commemorated by Quin, in the lines—

"The famous inn at Speenhamland,
That stands below the hill,
May well be call'd the Pelican,
From its enormous bill."

This, however, only refers to the past; the Inn is now excellent, reasonable, and much resorted to during the fishing-season.

This town, Pop. 5950, is 56 m.

from London, and is situated upon the river Kennet, at its junction with the Kennet and Avon Canal. It is supposed to have originated in the Roman *Spinae*, of which the name still remains in *Speen*, and *Speenhamland*, as the part of the town N. of the river is called. The earliest mention of this name is in a charter obtained by the Saxon Abbot Bethmee from King Kenwulf, in 821, giving "all the wood which is called Spene" to Abingdon Abbey. At the time of the Domesday-Book, two villages, Spone and Bagnor, occupied this site, and Ulmitone, or Ulward's Town, had sprung up in the neighbourhood, then nearly twice the size of Reading. According to Hollinshed, "King Stephen, by siege and force of assault, did win the Castell of Newburie." John lived much at his palace of Kingsclere, and often visited the town. According to an old legend he was concealed in the house of an old spinning woman at Newbury when he fled from his insurgent barons, and built the almshouses in King John's Court as a token of his gratitude. The story is told in an ancient ballad. The Manor of Newbury was in turn given as a jointure to Queen Jane Seymour and to Queen Anne of Denmark.

The town was one of the most flourishing seats of the cloth trade, which here produced its hero towards the end of the 15th centy. John Winchcombe, better known as *Jack of Newbury*, was a poor clothier, who had raised himself to great local eminence, and kept 100 looms at work. When, in Henry VIII.'s absence, the Scotch invaded England, he was ordered to send out four men armed with pikes and two horsemen for the King's service, and answered the call by marching N. at the head of 50 tall men well mounted, and 50 footmen with bow and pike, "as well armed and better clothed than any." Whether he reached Flodden

is doubtful, though the ballad of the 'Newberrie Archers' gives the particulars of the exploits of his men. On Henry's return from France Jack had the honour of entertaining him at Newbury, which he did in splendid fashion, and refused the honour of knighthood. But Jack's crowning work was his carrying to a successful issue the clothiers' petition, when, "by reason of the wars, many merchant strangers were prohibited from coming to England, and also our merchants, in like sort, were forbidden to have dealings with France and the Low Countries," so that the cloth trade had fallen very low. Wolsey, to whom the deputation was first referred, put the matter off from time to time, being of opinion that "Jack of Newbury, if well examined, would be found to be infected with Luther's spirit." Jack, in his turn, exasperated the Cardinal by saying, "If my Lord Chancellor's father had been no hastier in killing calves than he in despatching of poor men's suits, I think he would never have worn a mitre." But the King took the matter up, and the clothiers got their order, "that merchants should freely traffic one with another, and the proclamation thereof should be made as well on the other side of the sea as the land."

Jack of Newbury was buried 1519 in the Perp. ch., whose tower was built by him.

In 1518 Christopher Shoemaker was burnt at Newbury for reading the Gospels to John Hay; and on July 16, 1556, Julius Palmer, Fellow of Magdalen College, who had been a Romanist at Oxford, where he had assisted in the burning of the Bishops, himself underwent death for the reformed faith, with two others, at a place called the Sand Pits, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Newbury on the Enbourne road.—"When they were come to the place where they should suffer, they all 3 fell to the ground, and Palmer

[*B. B. & O.*]

with an audible voice pronounced the 31st Psalm, but the other 2 made their prayers secretly to God . . . and so forthwith they put off their raiment, and went to the stake and kissed it. And when they were bound to the post Palmer said, 'Good people pray for us, that we may persevere to the end, and for Christ's sake beware of Popish teachers, for they deceive you.' As he spake this, a servant of one of the bailiffs threw a faggot at his face, that the blood gushed out in divers places. For the which fact the sheriff reviled him, calling him cruel tormentor, and with his walking staff brake his head, that the blood likewise ran about his ears. When the fire was kindled and began to take hold upon their bodies, they lift up their hands towards heaven, and quietly and cheerily, as though they had felt no smart, they cried 'Lord Jesu strengthen us, Lord Jesu assist us, Lord Jesu receive our souls.' And so they continued, without any struggling, holding up their hands, and knocking their hearts, and calling upon Jesu, until they had ended their mortal lives."—*Fozz.*

But Newbury is chiefly celebrated for its 2 battles during the civil wars. *The First Battle of Newbury* took place in Sept. 1643, at a time when the royalists, then in possession of Newbury, were confident in anticipation of victory. On Sept. 16, Essex, who commanded the Parliamentary army, attempted to reach Newbury by a forced march over Enborne Chase, intending to proceed thence to London, but was driven to Hungerford, in consequence of an attack made by the royalists under Prince Rupert, in the middle of the chase, when "the dragoons in both sides gave fire in full bodies on one another on the side of the hill, so that the woods above and the valleys below did echo with the thunder of the charge." During this conflict many of the queen's life-guard were

cut to pieces, and the Marquis de Vieuville was taken mortally wounded, making known his rank in his last words, "Vous voyez un grand Marquis mourant." On Sept. 18 Essex was encamped "in the fields," between Enborne and the present road to Newbury, when he received a challenge from the king to give him battle next day, and at dawn, "impatient of the sloth of darkness," drew out his men in battle array on "Biggs' Hill," which name still remains applied to a cottage, on the borders of what till lately was Enborne Common. The king's lines, which commanded the London road, and which were defended in the rear by the river Lambourn and the guns of Donnington, must have extended from Newbury along "the hill" to Newbury Wash, where his main force was drawn up, and whither Essex, "finding his soldiers full of mettle," advanced by a narrow lane up Speen Hill, in which but six men could march abreast, seizing upon the tableland at the top, then enclosed and heathy, which he continued to occupy throughout the day. The king was unwilling to risk an engagement, but was forcibly led into it by the rashness of his officers, whose eagerness was such, that, leaving their doublets behind, they led out their men to battle in their shirts. The artillery were at first unavailable, but the royal cavalry, headed by the Earl of Carnarvon, charged with wonderful boldness, so that they routed the horse of the enemy in most places, though the young leader himself fell in the midst of his triumph. The Parliamentary foot however behaved admirably, and the London trained bands stood firm, and kept their ground steadily at Newbury Marsh, though Prince Rupert charged them in person with the cry "Queen Mary in the field!" *Essex, in a white hat, which he refused to change, was among them,*

and eventually, rallying his men, with undaunted courage led them up the hill, driving the infantry of the king "from hedge to hedge," and gained possession of "the hill, the hedges, and the river" Kennet.

Meantime the royalists, observing that Essex's men for distinction's sake wore branches of fern and broom in their hats, adopted the same badge, and, shouting "Friends!" fell stealthily upon the Parliamentary rear, but after a sharp conflict were put to flight. After 6 hrs. fight, "the cannon did still dispute with one another, as if the battle was but new begun;" and when at length night drew on, it left neither side to claim a victory, though it was a hard hand-to-hand fight to the last, and darkness sank over 6000 men dead upon the field. On the following morning Essex carried out his design of retiring to Reading, Pr. Rupert suffering him to proceed, with his whole army, till they were engulfed in the narrow lane near Theale, now called "Dead Man's Lane," when he fell upon their rear with fearful execution.

Among the 60 cartloads of slain carried into the town, were the young Earl of Carnarvon, who in the morning had been seen measuring a gateway with his sword, amid a crowd of laughing Cavaliers, to see how Essex's horns could pass through when they should lead him in as prisoner, and whose dead body came into Newbury the same evening, stretched across a horse "like that of a calf;" the Earl of Sunderland, only 23 yrs. old; and the blameless Lord Falkland, who had received the Sacrament that morning, and had gone out to battle, saying, "I am weary of the times, and foresee much misery to my country, but I believe I shall be out of it ere night." Clarendon describes him in a beautiful memoir, and says that, "If there were no other brand upon this odious and

accursed war than that single loss, it must be infamous and execrable to all posterity." He is commemorated by Pope in the line—

"See Falkland dies, the virtuous and the just;"

and by Southey, who wrote an inscription for a column at Newbury, commencing

"On this field

Did Falkland fall, the blameless and the brave."

This column has never been erected, and a solitary poplar alone marks the spot where he fell. Chain-shot, cannon-balls, and other relics are constantly found on the battle-field; and 3 tumuli still exist where the slain were interred, 2 on the Wash, and 1 partly on Enborne Common.

The *Second Battle of Newbury* took place Oct. 27, 1644, Charles having come thither to relieve Donnington Castle, which was besieged by the Earl of Manchester, and being himself quartered in Newbury, at a house on the W. of Cheap St. The suburban villages Speen and Shaw were both in possession of the royalists, Shawe House, or Doleman's, as it was then called, being occupied by Col. Page, and every hedge and hollow in its neighbourhood lined with ambushers, skirmishers, and marksmen.

Hostilities were commenced early on Sunday morning by a sudden attack of 1000 men of Manchester's army, who descended the hill undiscovered upon Shaw House, but they were routed by Sir J. Astley, and driven back upon their own men, who were coming to assist them. A succession of warm skirmishes continued till the afternoon, when, by a sudden movement, Waller led his army across the Lambourn, and seized Speen, a feat commemorated in the popular stanza:

"My friend David Waller, in doublet white,
And without any arms, either rusty or bright,
Charged through them twice like a little sprite,

Which nobody can deny."

Hence he immediately proceeded to attack the king's horse "in the open fields under the hill of Speen," where the king himself then was with the Pr. of Wales, but here he was repulsed by Col. Campfield, while the Earl of Cleveland charged the l. wing of the Parliamentarians, and succeeded in driving them back, but was himself taken prisoner. Meantime the troops under Manchester advanced upon "Dolemans," "singing of psalms as they went," but were repulsed by Sir J. Brown and Lieut.-Col. Page, who "pursued them from the house with notable execution;" and by Col. Lisle, unarmed and clad in "a good Holland shirt," who charged them 3 times, shouting "For the crown!" "For Pr. Charles!" "For the Duke of York!" while a storm of musket-bullets hailed upon them from every window and parapet of the old manor-house. At length night approached, "for which neither party were sorry," when all the royal forces drew up about Donnington, and, leaving their wounded and ordnance there, abandoned Newbury, which thenceforward remained in the hands of the Parliament, and retired to Oxford, unmolested by the enemy, who, "it being a fine moonlight night, were not ignorant of their retreat."

Newbury is now "a quiet, solid-looking town, lying round the fine old grey church, on the banks of the swift Kennet." It rests on a stratum of peat, not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. wide, but many miles in length, and abounding in curious geological remains. In consequence of this foundation, the houses shake perceptibly when any heavy waggon passes through the streets. The Kennet, which divides the town, is celebrated for its trout, especially

in May. The objects of interest are

The Church, of Perp. architecture, with a fine tower, built by Jack of Newbury, containing a brass to him and his wife Alice, 1519. Among the rectors of this church were Dr. W. Twiss, a famous nonconformist divine 1620-45, and Penrose the poet, d. 1769.

The Museum, containing a good geological collection from the peat substratum of the town.

The Market-house, in the upper room of which is a portrait said to represent Jack of Newbury, but really his son, John Winchcombe, d. 1557. A very large corn-market is held here, where the custom that everything must be paid for on delivery has given rise to the local proverb—

"The farmer doth take back
His money in his sack."

From Newbury may be visited Sandleford Priory (2 m.); Shaw House; Donnington Castle; Speen Ch. (1 m.); Avington Ch. (4 m.); Welford (6 m.); Little Shefford (8 m.); Lambourn (12 m.); West Woodhay (5 m.)

2 m. S. *Sandleford*, where Geoffrey Earl of Perche founded an Augustine Priory in 1200, now destroyed. In the modern house, called *Sandleford Priory* (Lord Rokeby), lived Mrs. Montagu, celebrated for her wit, and for the literary society of which she was the centre. Johnson, Goldsmith, Burke, Reynolds, Beattie, and Mrs. E. Carter were among her constant visitors. "Dr. Stillingfleet was in the habit of attending her literary parties in a full suit of cloth, with blue worsted stockings, and rendered himself so entertaining that the ladies used to delay their discussions until his arrival, declaring, 'We can do nothing without our blue stockings'—whence the *bas bleu!* Mrs. Montagu converted the old chapel of the Priory—which contained an interesting tomb of a

Crusader, supposed to be the Earl of Perche—into a dining room, connecting it with the house by a beautiful octagon drawing-room, a fact noticed by Mrs. H. More in one of her letters. Madame D'Arblay mentions a visit here, and Cowper has immortalized the feather hangings in the lines

'The birds put off their feathery hue
To dress a room for Montagu.'

Mrs. Montagu died in 1800."—*Godwin*.

1 m. N.E. is *Shaw House* (H. E. Eyre, Esq.), built in 1581, by Thomas Dolman, who had rivalled Jack of Newbury as a cloth-manufacturer, and who thus excited the envy of his neighbours, expressed in the lines—

"Lord have mercy upon us, miserable sinners;
Thomas Dolman has built a new house,
And has turn'd away all his spinners."

To which he retorted in the lines still remaining over the gateway—

"Edentulus vescentium dentibus invidet,
Et oculos caprearum talpa contemnit."

In spite of the repeated attacks it underwent in the Civil Wars, when it was the centre of conflict in the second battle of Newbury, Shaw is still the most stately Elizabethan mansion in Berks. It is built of rich red brick, with stone dressings, and is surrounded by old-fashioned shrubberies. The garden still shows some of the earthworks thrown up during the wars, and a large collection of cannon-balls, picked up on the spot, are preserved in the hall. In the old oak wainscot of the drawing-room is a hole, made, according to tradition, by a bullet fired at the king, while he was dressing in the bow window. It bears the inscription, "Hanc juxta fenestram, rex Carolus primus, instante obsidione schoppopetræ ictu tantum non eiec- tus fuit, die Octob. xxvii. MDCLIV." The *Ch.* contains some monuments of the Dolmans.

1 m. N. of Newbury, crowning a hill to the l. of the Oxford road, and shrouded in ancient trees, are the picturesque remains of *Donnington Castle*, now limited to an ivy-mantled gateway, with a tall tower on either side and a piece of wall adjoining, but ever memorable from its historical associations. The place has always been associated with the poet Chaucer, and local tradition, backed by the writings of Camden, Sylvester, Godwin, and others, asserts that he lived in the castle, which Grose declares to have been presented to him by John of Gaunt. Speght speaks of the "elde oke" at Donnington, called "Chaucer's oke;" and Evelyn declares that "among the trees in Donnington Park were three which were remarkable from the ingenious planter and dedicator (if tradition hold), the famous English bard Geoffrey Chaucer: of which one was called the king's, another the queen's, and a third Chaucer's oak;" while Ashmole further asserts that Chaucer "composed many of his celebrated pieces under an oak in Donnington Park." It is, however, unfortunately the fact, that Berkshire cannot claim the poet as a native, as Donnington did not come into the Chaucer family till 1418, 18 yrs. after the poet's death (John of Gaunt never having been the possessor of this place at all, but of Donnington in Leicestershire), when it passed from the Abberburys (of whom Sir Thos. Abberbury bought it for 100*s.* from Edward II.) to the poet's granddaughter Alice, whose tomb is at Ewelme, and who married—1st, Sir John Phelipp; 2nd, Thos., the brave Earl of Salisbury; and 3rd., Wm. de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, who resided with her at Donnington. Here she must frequently have been visited by her father, Thos. Chaucer, the poet's only son, by whom the trees were probably planted.

During the Civil Wars Donnington

Castle was the centre of conflict. It was first attacked by Gen. Middleton in Aug. 1644, when its brave governor Col. Boys, in answer to a summons to surrender, first declared his resolution of maintaining his trust, and repulsed his assailants, after a siege of 6 hrs., with a loss of 100 men. On Sept. 19 Col. Horton succeeded in beating down 3 of the towers, and, relying on this success, declared that, unless the castle was surrendered, he would spare no life within it: to which Boys replied, that he "would keep the place, and would neither give or take quarter;" and that night, again making a sally, repulsed his besiegers with loss. Threats that his enemies would not leave one stone upon another were only met by the response that he was not bound to repair the castle, but, by God's help, he would keep the ground; and long after Faringdon and Wallingford had surrendered, Sir John Boys (then knighted for his services), "alone in all Berkshire, remained in arms for the king," and would not relinquish his post at Donnington till, in April 1646, he had received orders from Oxford to do so. Round the Castle are still to be seen the entrenchments thrown up during the siege, the strength of which explains its successful defence.

Halfway up the Castle Hill is *Donnington Priory*, built 1570, on the site of a small priory of Trinitarians, which was founded by Sir Richard Abberbury, guardian of Richard II., in 1394, at the same time with *Donnington Hospital*.

At the foot of the hill flows the Lambourn, a celebrated trout-stream, which the inhabitants, "in spite of the evidence of their eyes," still believe to answer to the account of the poet Sylvester:—

"Little Lambes-Bourn,
All summer long (while all thy sisters
shrink)
Men of thy teares a million daily drinke;
Beside thy water, which in haste doth run,
To wash the feet of Chaucer's Donnington."

But (when the rest are full unto the top)
All winter long, thou never show'st a
drop."

1 m. N.W. is *Speen* or *Church Speen*. The ch. contains an altar-tomb, with the effigy in armour of John Baptist de Castillon, 1594, to whom a manor in this parish was granted in 1565. An effigy of his son's wife, 1603, is habited in a farthingale and flowered gown, with a veil nearly to the feet. There is a monument to the Margrave and Margravine of Anspach, who lived at Benham Place, in Speenhamland.

18½ m. l. *Enbourne* contains two ancient manors, in which a custom prevailed, that, if a widow of a copyholder was guilty of incontinency, she forfeited her life interest in her husband's copyhold, which could only be recovered by her riding into court on a black ram, repeating a ludicrous petition in rhyme. (See Addison in the 'Spectator,' No. 623.)

1. *Hampstead Marshall* (Earl of Craven), long held by tenure of the Earl Marshal's gold enamelled staff, whence its name. Its possessors number many of the most illustrious persons in the annals of English history. The office of marshal was granted with the manor by Henry I. to Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Pembroke (or Strygal), who was succeeded by his son Strongbow, King of Leinster, whose only daughter Isabel married Wm. Marshall, who had obtained the manor of Newbury as a reward of his victory at Lincoln over the last Earl of Perche. He is introduced by Shakespeare as hinting his suspicions of King John's murderous intentions towards his nephew Arthur, and became the guardian of Henry III., whence his name of Protector Marshall. His son was Wm. de Valence, who married Eleanor, sister of Henry III. (afterwards married to Simon Montfort), who exclaimed, when he saw him after death, "Woe, woe is

me! is not the blood of St. Thomas yet fully avenged?" He was succeeded in turn by his 4 brothers; Richard, the "flower of chivalry," murdered in Ireland, 1234; Gilbert, who married Princess Margaret of Scotland, killed in a tournament at Ware, 1241; Walter; and Anselm. Maude, the Protector's eldest daughter, married Hugh Bigod, the ferocious Earl Marshal who gave the lie to Henry III. From him the estates passed to his son and nephew, both named Roger Bigod, of the latter of whom, 1270, distinguished in his contests with Edward I., Hallam says, "I do not know that England has ever produced any patriots to whose memory she owes more gratitude than to Bohun, Earl of Hereford, and Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk."

In temp. Edw. II., Thos. of Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk, was made Earl Marshal, and from him the manor passed to the Montagues, Haukefords, and Parrys, till in 1620 it was bought by the Cravens.

In 1626 Sir Balthazer Gerbier (whose picture is at Windsor) began a stately pile of building for Lord Craven at Hampstead Marshall, which was to be a miniature of the castle of Heidelberg, to please the Queen of Bohemia. This was finished in 1665, but was burnt in 1718. Sir Balthazer Gerbier is buried in the Church, 1667.

Kintbury Stat., anciently Kennetbury. The ch. has some ancient monuments of the Darrells of Littlecote Hall. (See *Hdbk. of Wilts.*)

1.4 m. S. is *West Woodhay*, a village picturesquely situated at the foot of the downs, with a pleasantly situated manor-house of Inigo Jones (Rev. J. Sloper). The old ch., now pulled down, contained the tomb of Sir Benjamin Rudyerd, a poet and eminent politician of the Commonwealth, who is spoken of by Southey as "one of the most upright and able statesmen of his time, and one

of the most eloquent men in that age of English eloquence." After his desire for peace had led to his expulsion from the House he retired to West Woodhay, where he died, May 31, 1658.

Inkpen, on the hills, 2 m. W., has a cross-legged effigy in its church.

rt. 1½ m. from Kintbury is *Avington*, one of the smallest and most interesting churches in the county. It remains in its original state, and measures only 75 ft. by 14 ft. 7 in. "This is a very curious and fine Norm. ch., with a rich arch between nave and chancel, which seems to have failed at an early period, and been lately drawn too much depressed, and looking like 2 arches, which appearance it has not really. This arch and that of the S. door are very fine ones; there is a curious division in the chancel (which is nearly as long as the nave), with different groinings, but no appearance of this division outside. There is a low side E. E. window inserted in the S. side of the chancel, and another E. E. window inserted on the N. side of the nave; they are near 10 ft. from the floor. There is a good Norm. font, and at the W. end a small E. E. spire bell turret. This ch. should be carefully studied, being very good Norm."—*Rickman*. Close to the ch., which stands in a secluded meadow, is its picturesque vicarage.

25½ m. *Hungerford Stat.* (*Inn*: Bear.) This is a dull but considerable market-town (Pop. 2700), situated on the Kennet and the Kennet and Avon Canal, and is a popular resort for fishing, mentioned even by Evelyn as "a town famous for its troutes." It was anciently called *Ingleford Charman* or *Charmam Street*, which Gough thinks may be a corruption of the Ford of the Angles, on Herman Street, the ancient Roman road. The name Charmam Street is preserved in one of the avenues to the town, which con-

sists chiefly of one long ugly street, with the market-house in the centre. An ancient horn still exists, given by John of Gaunt, with the right of fishing in the Kennet. Another horn of brass, preserved in the Town-hall, and blown annually to summon the tenants at the manor-court, has the date 1634, and the inscription, "John a Gaun did give and grant the riall fishing to Hungerford towne, from Eldven Stub to Irish Stil, excepting som several mil pound." In the ch. is the tomb of Robert de Hungerford, inscribed, "Whoever shall pray for Master Robert de Hungerforde, he shall have whilst he lives, and for his soul after death, 550 days of pardon, granted by 14 bishops whilst he was living." The town is still a famous place of resort during the fishing-season. Dr. Chandler was born here 1693.

Hungerford Park (George Willis, Esq.) is on the site of an old house built by Elizabeth, and given by her to the Earl of Essex.

No one should visit *Hungerford* without, if possible, seeing *Littlecote Hall* (the seat of the Pophams), 2 m., in Wilts; but it is shown to strangers only when the family are away. (See *Hdbk. of Wilts*.) Carriages may be obtained at the Bear.

3 m. S. is *Shalbourn*. The ch. contains the monument of Francis Choke, with his effigy in armour, with a very long beard. Jethro Tull introduced his plan of farming at Prosperous Farm in this parish.

There is a bleak and ugly road of 23 m. over the Downs from Hungerford by Great Shefford to Wantage.

ROUTE 5.

NEWBURY TO LAMBOURN, BY WELFORD, LITTLE AND GREAT SHEFFORD, AND EAST GARSTON.

This route is exceedingly interesting to the architect. A pleasant excursion may be made from the Newbury Stat. to Donnington, Wickham, Welford, and the Sheffords, returning thence to rejoin the Rly. at Hungerford.

4 m. *Boxford*. 1. 1½ m. is *Wickham*, where the ch. has a curious Saxon tower, with later additions. A modern ch. is in the course of erection, and a magnificent house (— Hare, Esq.), reminding one of a Flemish town-hall.

6 m. *Welford*. The ch., in a pretty situation, has a most picturesque tower, and in the churchyard the shaft of an old cross. "The lower part of the tower and a portion of the wall, a N. door, and some windows now stopped, are all Norm. The ch. and chancel are E. E., with a modern E. window, and a very good Perp. S. aisle and porch. The upper part of the tower and spire are late E. E., and almost Dec. The tower becomes octagon above, and the spire ribbed, with 8 good double windows. This is one of the largest of the round towers, and constructed, as to the early part of it, of small stones. There is a very fine round font, curious from its Norm. forms and E. E. details: it has 16 intersecting arches round it."—*Rickman*.

The manor of Benham Level, in this parish, was held by the service of keeping a pack of dogs, at the King's expense, for his use.

8 m. rt. *Little Shefford* (Sheepford), in a solitary green valley, is a very interesting group of buildings on the banks of the swift Lambourn, and shaded by picturesque old trees. Here was formerly a very ancient

moated manor-house, built by one of the Fettyplace family, who married the heiress of Besils. Only the great hall and one other apartment remain, now turned into a barn. Some of the windows are perfect; the gables are supported by corbels; on a projecting stone is a shield of the arms of Besils quartering Legh. Within is some magnificent timberwork. The fireplace is very large; near it is a recess, formerly a bay window.

The little old ch. contains a beautiful decaying monument of Sir Thomas Fettyplace and his wife, with alabaster effigies. He is habited in armour; his head reclining on a helmet much ornamented, but the crest (an eagle's head) is broken off; it stood on a wreath of flowers. His sword and dagger are gone. Round the tomb are angels supporting shields. Against the N. wall of the chancel is the tomb, in grey marble, of John Fettyplace, 1524, and his wife; under an arch their effigies in brass plates, kneeling to the Trinity; the children are behind. The arms, both on window-glass and tomb, are Fettyplace, quartering Besils, impaled with Leigh. Shefford was deserted by the Fettyplaces for Besilsleigh near Cumnor.

9 m. *Great or West Shefford*. The ch. has a circular tower at the W. end, to which an octangular story has been afterwards added. Near the N. door is a richly-decorated niche. The font is Norm., enriched with scrolls of foliage. Charles I. was lodged here Nov. 19, 1644. Here the Hungerford and Wantage road is crossed.

10 m. *East Garston*. This manor was held by tenure of having to find a knight, clad in plate-armour, to serve the King for 40 days, at his own cost, whenever he should be in Kidwelly in Wales, of which manor this was a member. The neighbouring manor of *Bockhampton* was held by service of keeping a pack

of harriers for the royal hunt, at the King's charge.

12 m. *Lambourn* (Pop. 1160), situated on the river of that name. The *Ch.* is a fine cruciform Gothic building, having 2 chantry chapels of the Isburys on the S., in one of which is the tomb of the founder, John Isbury, 1485, with a brass representing him in a surcoat, with his arms enamelled. His son founded a hospital near the ch. for 10 poor men, who are mentioned by Lysons as attending divine service in this chapel, kneeling around the founder's tomb. In the N. transept of the ch. is the tomb of Sir Thomas Essex and his wife Margaret, 1558, with their effigies in alabaster.

N. of Lambourn rise the bleak chalk downs in which is the source of the river of that name. On these hills are many ancient barrows, the most remarkable of which is "Wayland Smith's Cave." (See Rte. 3.)

ROUTE 6.

NEWBURY TO OXFORD, BY EAST ILSLEY AND ABINGDON.

27 m.

Leaving Newbury, the road runs at the foot of the hill (on the l.), which is crowned by the ruins of Donnington Castle. rt. 1 m. is Shaw House. (See Rte. 4.)

3 m. l. Chieveley.

6 m. l. a road branches off to *Pease-more* (2 m.), one of the manors of Thomas Chaucer, son of the poet. The ch. contains the monument of Mr. Wm. Coward, 1739, who, "out of an income of 110*l.*, maintained a most

hospitable table, rebuilt the church tower, and gave the great bell and the communion plate." In this direction (5 m.) are the villages of *Leckhampstead*, which was one of the manors granted by Edward II. to Piers Gaveston, and *Chaddleworth*, whose manor (which was given by the Conqueror to Robert d'Oyley, and afterwards belonged to the mother of Edward I., who bought it for the support of her daughter Eleanor of Brittany, then a nun at Ambresbury) shared in the singular custom which prevailed concerning widows at Enborne. 1½ m. from hence, in a retired situation among woods, is the farmhouse of *Ellensfordmere*, which marks the site of the Abbey of Poghley, built for Augustine canons by Ralph of Chaddleworth in 1161, destroyed in 1532. *Woolley Park* (P. Wroughton, Esq.), in this parish, built 1690, was much altered 1799. The neighbouring ch. of *Bright Walton* (pronounced Brikleton), which belonged to Battle Abbey in Sussex, contains a curious Norm. font, with interlaced arches, and the brass of John Newman, 1517.

7 m. rt. a road branches off to *Hampstead Norris* (3 m.), of which the second name has been in turn Ciffrewast and Ferrars, from the different families who have held the manor. 2 m. S. is *Yattendon*, once a market-town. Sir John Norreys, Master of the Wardrobe to Henry VI., had licence to embattle a manor-house here (now destroyed) in 1447. The ch. was also probably built by him. It contains the tomb of another Sir John Norreys, who served in the Netherland wars, and died in 1597, furious at not having been more amply rewarded for his services, which are detailed in an immense epitaph. Carte, who wrote a great part of his 'History of England' in the village, died here 1754, and is also buried in the ch.

8 m. l. 1 m. *Cotmore*. The small

ch. (of St. Margaret) is Norm., without either tower or porch. It has been recently restored. The manor has been in the hands of the Eystons of East Hendred for more than 5 centuries.

rt. *Compton*, supposed by antiquaries to occupy the site of a large Roman town. On an eminence known as *Cow Down*, following the shape of the hill, is a circular British entrenchment called *Perborough Castle* (from *per*, a rampart; *burgh*, a fortified place), which was evidently afterwards occupied by Romans, from the numerous relics of that people which are found there. Near this is one of the many large farms bearing the name of *Cold Harbour*, which are always in the vicinity of a Roman road, and are supposed to be so called from *col*, a hill, and *arhhar*, an army.

10 m. *East Isley*, formerly *Hildesley*, or *Huldesley*, a small and ancient market-town in a valley among bleak and dreary downs, which has sprung from the ashes of the ancient Saxon town of *Nachededorne*, or the *Solitary Thorn-tree*, so called from a tree which was believed to have been an assembling-place of the Druids. Some antiquaries maintain that this was *Æscendune*, where Alfred fought the Danes, and that hence the name of *Hildelæg*, or the *Battle-field*, was given to these downs; while, according to Asser, it was around "the Thorn-tree" that the Danes assembled previous to their defeat. The small mixed Ch. of St. Mary has an E. E. chancel, and contains a monument (1606) of one of the Hildesleys, ancient lords of the manor. John Hilsey, who succeeded Bishop Fisher at Rochester (1535-40), was one of this family. Rich. Wightwick, the benefactor of Pembroke College, Oxford, of which he may be considered the co-founder with Tesdale, was rector of this parish, and gave the great *!! in the tower.*

Isley is now chiefly remarkable for its sheep-market, which existed as early as the reign of Henry III., and which is the largest in this part of England. It is held on every alternate Wednesday, from the Wednesday fortnight before Easter to the first Wednesday in July. The qualities of the place are summed up in the rhyme:—

"Isley, remote amidst the Berkshire downs,
Claims these distinctions o'er her sister towns:
Far famed for sheep and wool, though
not for splinters,
For sportsmen, doctors, publicans, and
sinners."

1. 1½ m. *West Isley*, remarkable for its versatile rectors. The learned Antonio de Dominis, Archbishop of Spalatro, who was converted to Protestantism and fled to England, was presented to this living by James I., in 1616: He wrote 'De Republica Ecclesiastica,' and preached constantly against the Papal power; but having been made Dean of Windsor, and being angry at obtaining no higher preferment, he re-entered the Romish Church, on promise of pardon from Gregory XV., and returned to Rome, hoping to be made a cardinal, but was imprisoned in St. Angelo by the Inquisition, and died of a broken heart, 1625. He was succeeded by Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester, who was visited here by Charles I. (in the old rectory-house, now destroyed) on his way to Donnington Castle in 1644. He was intensely devoted to the royal cause, in spite of which he dedicated 'A Discourse on the Trinity' to Oliver Cromwell. Refusing to sign the 17 canons of doctrine and discipline, he was, says Walker, "spoiled, plundered, and utterly undone;" and he died, Jan. 1655, in the Romish faith. Fuller says that "he was the single bishop of 200 who had lived since the Reformation, whom the vile and detestable practice of those who engross to

themselves the name of Protestants had scandalized into Popery."

1½ m. further W. is *Farnborough* (the Fern-town). The ch. has a good Norm. doorway. On the E. of the parish a Roman road, called *Old Street*, may be traced through Knapp's Copse and High Robin's Wood.

On the highest point of the downs the ancient Ridgeway is crossed. 1. are *Cuckhamsley Hills*, 800 ft. high. *Cuckhamsley*, or *Scutchamstly Knob*, is a tumulus on the hill-top, 21 ft. above the soil, and 140 yds. in circumference. The ancient name of Cwicchelmeslawe led to the idea that it was the burial-place of King Cwichehelm, who reigned, conjointly with Kynegils, over the W. Saxons, and was baptized by St. Birinus at Dorchester, 636. He is supposed to have been buried on these downs, where he was killed in fighting against Edwin King of Northumbria, who came hither to avenge an attempt to murder him, having promised Paulinus that he would become a convert to Christianity if he were victorious. The Saxon Chronicle, describing the battle of Æscendune, narrates how the Danes "turned along Æscendune to Cwicchelmeslawe, and there awaited better cheer,"—an account confirmed by Robert of Gloucester in the lines,—

"Much sorrow they deede in Berkschire about
Aashedune,
And about Quicholmes destroyed many a
towne."

These hills were formerly the scene of a celebrated fair, which was abolished by James I., 1620, in order to promote the welfare of the market at East Ilsley. From hence the straight green road of *Golden Mile* leads down towards East Hendred.

rt. is *Bleuberry Down*, spreading down to the wide expanse of open country known as *Chilton Plain*.

The eminence of *Churn Knob* is remarkable for the local tradition that there St. Birinus used to preach in the open air to his converts and disciples.

12 m. *Cats Gore*, formerly Keats Gore, from the family who founded it. Here were once the great stables built by the Duke of Cumberland for his racehorses, in which the celebrated "Eclipse" was born and bred.

13 m. *Chilton* ("the chalky place"). The manor-house, called *Latton's Place*, has been modernized, but retains the armorial bearings of its former owners the Laltons. On rt. numerous Roman antiquities have been discovered on *Hagbourn Hill*.

15½ m. The road, having reached the plain, crosses the main road from London to Bath.

1. 1½ m. is *East Hendred*, a very picturesque and interesting village. At its entrance are the remains of a monastery called "Jesus of Bethlehem," which was an offshoot of Sheen, near Richmond, consisting of an old stone chapel with some fine Perp. windows, and the small monastic house attached to it, having a richly-carved bargeboard to its gable. Proceeding on the rt. is an ancient two-gabled house of brick and lath, a very beautiful specimen of village architecture. Beyond this are the gates of *Hendred House* (Charles Eyston, Esq.), which is adorned with ancient monograms, and which has remained in the hands of the old Roman Catholic family of Eyston from the 13th centy. Attached to it is the chapel of St. Amen or Amand, remarkable as one of the only three (the others being Stonor and Hazlewood in Yorkshire) which have always been devoted to the service of the Roman Catholic Church. Its existence is known as early as 1291; and it was open to all comers till the invasion of William III., when, while his army was passing over *Golden Mile*,

1 m. distant, some of the soldiers defaced and plundered the chapel; and, "taking some of the church stuffe with them to Oxford, dressed up a mannekin in it, and set it up on the top of a bonfire." The chapel was despoiled of its revenues at the dissolution; but its ancient glebe is still called "the Church Furlough," and the abode of its priest, now a farm-house, is still "St. Amand's." The building is E. E., with walls of immense thickness. In one of the windows is the cipher of Hugh Faringdon, last Abbot of Reading. In the old library adjoining is preserved the tomb of Robert first Abbot of Poghley. Coins of "Ædelered, rex Anglorum," have been picked up near the chapel. The Eystons are the direct descendants of Sir Thomas More, through the marriage of his son "Jack More" with Anne Crisaker, the heiress of Barnborough in Yorkshire, which remained till quite lately in the hands of the family. Among the relics of Sir Thomas preserved at East Hendred are his drinking-cup, a very fine original portrait of him by *Holbein*, and two curious portraits on wood, of Sir T. More and Cardinal Pole, which have always been in the family. Here also is one of the huge and curious pictures of the More family, of which there are four others in existence, viz. those at Basle in Switzerland, Nostell in Yorkshire, Cokethorpe in Oxfordshire, and that belonging to Lord Petre. Among the figures seen here, but not always included, are those of Pattison the fool, and Heresius the servant of Sir Thomas. The figure of Mrs. More was unfortunately cut off while the picture was at Barnborough. Another relic preserved here is the ebony staff of Bishop Fisher, which supported him on the scaffold.

The *Ch.*, in the hollow, having a tower which retains its ancient *chimes*, is an interesting building,

and contains part of its ancient roodloft. The stumpy columns and heavy capitals are curious; also the corbels between the arches, of heads, whose feet appear below. The N. chantry has long been the burial-place of the Eystons, and is filled with their monuments. Several brasses to "merchants in cloth and wool" bear witness to the ancient mercantile importance of East Hendred. There can be little doubt that the picturesque field beyond the ch., where terraces still remain in the turf, was the drying-ground of the cloth which was sold at the fairs on Cuckamsley Hill. In the days of its prosperity East Hendred gave two abbots to Abingdon—Rob. de Hendred, 1234; and Rich. de Hendred, 1289.

John Paternoster held land here temp. Edward I., by tenure of saying a paternoster every day for the King's soul. The road to West Hendred is still called "Paternoster baroke."

1½ m. W. is *Ardington* (the home of Clarke the antiquary), which belonged to Robert Vernon, who collected here the pictures which he afterwards left to the nation.

rt. are some quaint old villages. *Harwell*, 1 m., has a fine cruciform ch., chiefly Dec., which contains a memorial of the singular legacy of Christ. Elderfield, 1652, who left lands for the purpose of purchasing "2 milch cows every spring to be given to the 2 poorest men in the parish, for their sustenance." As it was found impossible for the poor men to get pasture for their cows, the trustees of this legacy give it away in meat at Christmas instead.

East Hagbourne has a good old ch., and an ancient village cross raised on lofty steps.

17 m. The Great Western Rly. is crossed just above *Steventon Stat.*, leaving on the l. the old village of *Steventon* (Rte. 3) lying low in the vale, and often flooded in winter.

17½ m. rt. ¼ m. Milton, whose *Manor-house* (Jno. B. Barrett, Esq.) has a Roman Catholic chapel attached to it, with ancient stained-glass windows.

[rt. 2m. is *Sutton Courtenay*, whose manor, very early the property of the abbots of Abingdon, was exchanged by the Abbot Rethunus with Kinwulf, King of the Mercians, for the ancient royal palace in the Isle of Andersey, close to the monastery, where the King had kept his hounds and hawks to the great annoyance of the monks. Henry II. gave it to Reg. Courtenay, ancestor of the Earls of Devonshire, by whom it was twice forfeited: first by Thos. Courtenay for being in arms against Edward IV. at the battle of Towton Field; and afterwards, when it had been again restored to the family, by the attainder of Henry Marquis of Exeter.

The *Ch.* was given by the Conqueror to the Abbey of Abingdon, and contains a curious font. Near it is a very curious *Manor-house* of the time of Edward III., which was used by the abbots as a place of country retirement. The interior is in parts very perfect, its hall retaining its ancient roof and pointed windows filled with Dec. tracery, and one of the chambers at the end of the hall its open roof. "Under one of the windows is a low side-opening, with foliated tracery, an elegant piece of work, and very curious, as no other instance is known of a low side window in a hall. Opposite the ch.-tower is another old house of Trans.-Norm. and E. E. character." (*J. H. P.*)]

19 m. *Drayton*. The ch. contains the remains of a beautiful alabaster reredos, with the painting and gilding nearly perfect, which was dug up in the chancel a few years ago.

21 m. *ABINGDON* (Pop. 5954, returning 1 M.P. *Inns*: Crown and Thistle, near the Bridge; Queen's Arms, *Commercial*, in the market-

place), an ancient town, situated in a rich level plain at the junction of the Ock and the Thames, and historically one of the most interesting places in the county. It is reached from Oxford or London by a branch of the Great Western Railway, diverging from the main line half-way between Didcot and Oxford.

The original town was Seovec-hesham, or Seusham, which, according to a MS. in the Cottonian library, was a wealthy city, a royal residence, and a place of religious worship, even in early British times. It was deserted, however, by the Saxon kings for many years, till Offa, King of the Mercians and W. Saxons, paying an accidental visit to the place, became enamoured of the Isle of Andersey, which was situated in the river opposite the abbey. This was at that time occupied by rich lay monks, but the King persuaded them to give it up in exchange for the manor of Goosey, and built a palace there, where he resided, and where his son and successor King Egfrid died. Kinwulf, the next King, used the palace only for his huntsmen and falconers, who made themselves so disagreeable to the monks, that Abbot Rethunus persuaded the King to restore Andersey to them in exchange for the manor of Sutton Courtenay, and 120*l.* of silver. The site of Andersey is still marked by a large tract of land encircled by the Thames and the stream commencing at the ferry-boat and falling into the main river at Culham Bridge. Leland mentions the site of the palace as occupied by a barn, and the foundations of buildings may still be traced in the first meadow out of the town, on the E. side of the bridge.

The importance of the place was chiefly owing to its Abbey, which, after many vicissitudes, became one of the richest mitred abbeys in England.

The tradition which is supported

by monkish chroniclers is, that the site originally chosen was a hill called Abben-dun, at Bayworth, in the neighbouring parish of Sunningwell, probably in Bagley Wood; and this is said to have derived its name from a holy Aben, who "stole away from the massacre at Stonehenge, and lived here in retirement, where the inhabitants, flocking to him to hear the word of God, built him a dwelling-house and a chapel in honour of the Holy Virgin, after which, he, disliking their resort, stole away to Ireland." It is, however, more probable that the name simply had its origin from the direct connection of the abbey with the place. The abbey was founded on the hill, about 680, by Cissa, viceroy of Centwin, King of the W. Saxons, in honour of the Virgin, to contain 12 Benedictine monks, over whom his nephew Heane was appointed abbot. The foundation of Cissa was confirmed by Ceadwall, the successor of Centwin, who also gave him the town of Seovechesham, commanding that it should henceforward be called Abbendon from the abbey-hill. The first abbey, which was 120 ft. long, and circular at either end, was totally destroyed by the Danes in the time of Alfred, who himself afterwards completed the ruin of the monks, by taking away from them the town and all their estates, because he thought that they did not reward him sufficiently for punishing the Danes. The abbey was refounded and endowed by his grandson Edred, who persuaded St. Ethelwold, then a monk at Glastonbury, afterwards Bp. of Winchester, to become its abbot, when the building, removed to its present situation, was consecrated in great pomp by St. Dunstan, and either saint presented it with two bells of his own workmanship. In 963 the abbey was completed by the abbot Ordgar, and from that period began to date its

magnificence; so that at the time of the Norm. survey it had no less than 30 Berkshire manors in its own possession. Holinshed relates that Egelwin, Bp. of Durham, was imprisoned here in 1073, and starved to death. Geoffry of Monmouth, the Chronicler, reported to have been its abbot by Godwin, was interred in the monastery, which was also the burial-place of St. Edward, king and martyr, and of Robert d'Oyley, the friend of the Conqueror and founder of Oxford Castle. Henry I. was left here by his father in 1084, and was educated by the monks, under whose tuition he made such progress as earned his name of Beau-clerc. In 1276 Henry III. held his court here. The last abbot, Rowland, or Penthecost, in spite of being accused of enormous crimes, bought the manor and park of Cumnor (his old country-seat), and a pension of 200*l.* a-year, by his easy surrender; the rental of the abbey at the time of its dissolution being 1876*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*

Leland dilates upon the magnificence of the building, of which the ch. and E. part of the convent were built by the Norm. abbots, and the W. front by the abbots Aschecdune and Sante in the 15th centy., the walls being embattled by licence from Edward III. in 1330. Very little now remains to show its former grandeur, except the graceful Perp. gateway, with a statue of the Virgin over it, joining St. Nicholas' Ch., and behind it part of the ancient refectory, now a barn, which retains a beautiful Dec. window, its open timber roof, and a fireplace of Henry III., with slender pillars on either side. From these buildings a subterranean passage is believed to conduct to another ruin of a picturesque tower beyond the Rly. Stat., close to Barton Farm.

Next to the abbey Abingdon owed its prosperity to its picturesque bridge of 6 pointed arches, built by John

Huchyns in 1416, with stone given by Sir Peter Besils of Besilsleigh. Some quaint contemporary verses, preserved in the old hospital, bear witness to the previous need of it and to the rejoicings at its erection:—

"Kynge Henry V. in his fourthe yere,
He hath i-found for his folk a brige in
Berkscheere,
Where carlis with carriage may go and
come clere,
That many winters afore were marred in
the myre.
For now is Culham Hythe (ferry) come
to an ende,
An all the contrie the better and no man
the worse."

On one of the windows of St. Helen's Ch. also long remained the distich—

"Henricus Quartus quarto fundaverat anno;
Rex pontem Burford, super undas atque
Culhamford."

Of the 2 *Chs.* the oldest is that of *St. Nicholas*, near the Abbey-gate, refounded by Abbot Nicholas de Colchan, about 1300, on the side of an earlier structure. The ch., as it now exists, is picturesque, but probably only the E. end of the original building; the present W. front, surmounted by the tower, has a good round-headed doorway with E. E. mouldings and side-arches. In one of the windows are the arms of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York.

St. Helen's, near the river, is a very fine ch. in dimensions, having a nave and chancel of equal breadth, 3 aisles, and a S. chapel, being in fact 4 parallel aisles of equal length, forming a spacious rectangle, at the N.E. angle of which rises the tower, surmounted by the lofty spire, with its flying buttresses, which is so conspicuous an object in all distant views of the town, and in Turner's picture of Abingdon. Inside the ch. is much spoilt, and blocked up by galleries and pews. The 2nd aisle from the entrance, built for a guild in 1539, was ceiled at the expense of Nich. Gould, one of the

fraternity of the Holy Cross, and his wife Amy. It formerly bore the inscription—

"In the worship of our Lady,
Pray for Nicholas Gould and Amy."

The roof, which is richly painted with figures of kings, prophets, and saints, under carved canopies, was, according to local tradition, saved from the abbey at the dissolution. In the gallery is a portrait of Mr. Wm. Lee, 5 times mayor of Abingdon, who is buried beneath, and who is mentioned by Ashmole as having "in his lifetime issue from his loynes 200, lacking but 3." At the S. end of the N. aisle is the tomb of John Royse, founder of the grammar-school, 1571. In the nave is the brass of Geoffrey Barbour, the great benefactor of the town, April 21, 1417. Cissa, the sister of Heane, the first abbot, founded a nunnery here in 690, of which she became the first prioress. Her foundation was afterwards removed to Wytham, but the site of her nunnery was always called the Manor of St. Helen's, and is believed to be that of the present ch.

On the N. of the ch. is the *Hospital of the Brotherhood of the Holy Cross*, a fraternity which existed here at a very early period, certainly before the year 1389, when they are mentioned as possessing a priest and 2 proctors chosen annually. They were incorporated in 1442, and endowed with lands worth 40*l.* per annum, to enable them to keep the road between Abingdon and Dorchester in repair, to maintain 13 poor men and women, and to provide a chaplain for St. Helen's, Sir John Golafre (buried at Fyfield), and Thomas Chaucer, son of the poet, being trustees. This guild was dissolved with the other religious establishments temp. Henry VIII., but at the request of Sir John Mason was refounded, and received a new charter in 1553 from Edward

VI.; after which the first sermon in commemoration of benefactors was preached by Laud, not yet a bishop. The building is a curious old structure of brick and timber, with a low cloister, decorated on the interior with texts, and on the exterior with paintings representing the virtue of almsgiving, with figures supposed to include portraits of Geoffrey Barbour, King Edward VI., and Sir John Mason. In the old oak hall are their arms in stained glass, and their portraits, with those of many other benefactors, including Sir Peter Besils, Lionel Bostock, and Thomas Tesdale, the founder of Pembroke College, and his wife. The picture of the rich Geoffrey Barbour giving John Huchyns money to build the bridge is very curious, with the building going on in the background. At the E. end of the wooden cloister is a representation of the celebrated stone *Cross* which was erected by the brotherhood in the market-place, and from which the cross at Coventry is supposed to have been copied. It was totally destroyed by Waller, May 31, 1644, to revenge a repulse which his army had received at New-bridge. Richard Symonds, who saw it a few weeks before its destruction, describes it (in an MS. in the British Museum) as octangular, having 3 rows of statues—the first of 6 *grave* kings; the second of the Virgin, 4 female saints, and a mitred prelate; the third, of small figures of apostles and prophets; the whole ornamented with coats of arms painted and carved. Here Aubrey narrates that Richard Corbet, Bp. of Norwich and Dean of Christchurch, sang ballads after he was made a doctor of divinity; for, "the Dean being one market-day with some of his companions at the tavern by the Crosse, a ballad-singer complained that he had no custom, and could not put off his ballads; whereupon the jolly Doctor puts off his

gowne, and puts on the ballad-singer's leathern jacket, and being a handsome man, and having a rare full voice, he presently vended a great many and had a great audience."

The site of the Cross is now occupied by the *Market-house*, a curious building of the time of Anne, built of ashlar and rough freestone, and consisting of a tower, and a hall with a high roof supported by arches and lofty pillars.

Opposite this, on rt., is the arched gateway of the *Grammar School*, founded by John Royse, 1563. His first scholar, Thomas Tesdale, founded Pembroke College at Oxford for scholars to be chosen from Abingdon School by the master and governors of the Hospital. Thomas Godwin, author of 'Roman and Jewish Antiquities,' Lord Chief Justice Holt, and Archbishop Newcome (born in the town 1729), were educated here. Other eminent natives of Abingdon have been—St. Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1234-40; his brother Robert Rich, and his two sainted sisters, Margaret and Alice, successively prioresses of Catesby, on whose birthplace Rich, Earl of Cornwall built a chapel in 1288; Sir John Mason, whose father was a cowherd, and mother the sister of one of the abbey monks, from whom he received his education, and by whom he was sent to Oxford, where he so pleased Henry VIII. by a graceful compliment paid on his visit in 1523, that he took him with him to court and sent him to Paris to complete his education, after which he rose in the four successive reigns to be Privy Councillor, Ambassador to France, and Chancellor of the University of Oxford. Abbot, Speaker of the House of Commons, and Moore, author of 'The Gamester,' have been among the celebrities of Abingdon in later years.

A garrison was established at Abingdon by Charles I., which be-

came the head-quarters of his horse, and thither the whole royal family came April 17, 1644. In May of the same year a council of war was held here, soon after which the garrison quitted the place on the approach of the Earl of Essex, who plundered the town, and fortified it for the Parliament. The various attempts which the Royalists afterwards made to recover it were unsuccessful, though Prince Rupert contrived for a time to regain possession of the abbey and to place 500 men there. The cruel custom of this garrison of hanging all Irish prisoners without a trial made "Abingdon law" proverbial. This place was once the seat of so flourishing a cloth trade, that Leland said "The town stoneth by clothing;" but after the dissolution of the monastery this became gradually so reduced, that Sir John Mason made a representation of the poverty of the place to Queen Mary, which induced her to grant lands to enable the town to pay its fee-farm rent and to maintain its ancient state. The trade consists now of malting, hemp-dressing, and sack and sail-cloth making, but the mercantile days of the place are over; it is only a quiet, sleepy, lifeless old town, though well worthy of a visit.

23 m. l. a lane turns off to the pretty village of *Sunningwell*, so called from the stream which runs through it. The *Ch.* (of St. Leonard), which is entered by a very curious W. porch (octangular, and of Elizabethan architecture, with Gothic doors and windows, and Ionic columns), is supposed to have been rebuilt by Bp. Jewell, who was curate here in his youth. The interior remains in its original state, with fine old open Dec. seats and a later Elizabethan altar-rail. Before the altar is the grave, inscribed S. F., of Samuel Fell, Dean of Christ Church and Rector of this place, who died of grief on hearing of the

execution of Charles I., Feb. 2, 1649. A second stone, close beside him, commemorates his wife and children. From the tower the celebrated Roger Bacon used to make his astronomical observations. Hearne mentions that on Shrove Tuesday children used to go round this village in the dusk, singing—

"Beef and bacon's
Out of season,
I want a pan
To parch my peas on,"—

after which they threw stones at all people's doors, which made people shut their doors on that evening. This custom still partially exists, but the verses are altered.

rt. *Radley*, once a manor of the Abbey of Abingdon, from which it was purchased by George Stonehouse, Clerk of the Green Cloth to Queen Elizabeth. The red-brick mansion has the reputation of being the best-built house in the county. It is now incorporated with *St. Peter's College*, of whose Warden it is the residence. Near it is a long red-brick building containing the dormitories and school-rooms of the boys, and a beautiful chapel fitted up with fine stained glass and rich carving from Cologne. The object of this institution has been to give boys the advantages of a public school education, combined with strictly ecclesiastical principles; for all details as to its designs and working the reader is referred to a volume of sermons by its present warden, the Rev. W. Sewell. Beyond the Park is the village *Ch.*, which contains a fine tomb of Sir Wm. Stonehouse, 1632, and his eldest son Sir John. The chancel has some good P. painted glass, and rich old woodwork.

The road enters *Bagley Wood* at the spot mentioned by Hearne. "One Blake hung upon an oak in the way to Abingdon, beyond the half-way gate. This traitor betrayed 3 Christian kings, and would

have betrayed the 4th, upon which he was hanged, within 2 days after his design was discovered, upon the said oak, which is still called 'Blake's Oak.'" Here St. Edmund of Abingdon was attacked by robbers, but, his protestations of poverty being found to be true, was allowed to proceed. The wood, which is now the property of St. John's College, abounds in flowers, and is a favourite walk from Oxford. Dr. Arnold said, "Some of my most delightful remembrances of Oxford and its neighbourhood are connected with the scenery of the late autumn: Bagley Wood in its golden decline, and the green of the meadows reviving for awhile under the influence of a Martinmas summer, and then fading finally off into its winter brown." From the top of the hill at the end of the wood is a splendid view of Oxford,—its spires, towers, and groves rising in the midst of the green valley.

Hence there is a rapid descent into the fertile plain. Spence's 'Anecdotes' describe Pope stopping on his journey to Oxford, and giving up his carriage to a lady who was overturned on this hill. The Great Western Rly. is crossed, and then the Isis, before reaching

27 m. *Oxford*, which is entered by Folly Bridge, leading to St. Aldate's Street.

ROUTE 7.

OXFORD TO HIGHWORTH, BY CUMNOR, BESILSLEIGH, FYFIELD, PUSEY, BUCKLAND, FARINGDON, AND COLESHILL.

24 m. Part of the road from Oxford to Bath.

The road leaves Oxford by the station, and is called the Seven Bridge Road, from the number of bridges by which it crosses the many small streams which here intersect the low water-meadows.

Crossing the main stream of the Isis at the suburban village of *Oseney*, the site of *Oseney Abbey* is passed on the l.

[l. a path turns off across the meadows to *North Hinksey* (anciently *Hengestesigge*, a pathway on the side of a hill), generally called *Ferry Hinksey*, which is reached by a ferry. The ch. has a fine Norm. doorway. It contains the tomb of Thomas Willis (father of Dr. Willis), who died in the royal cause during the siege of Oxford, Aug. 1643; and the monument of W. Finmore, Fellow of St. John's, 1646, with a curious inscription beginning "Reader, look to thy feet; honest and loyal men are sleeping under them." In the churchyard are the remains of a Dec. Cross with a fluted shaft; the epitaph of Richard Spindlove, 1825 ("All that was mortal of a blue"), is curious. The fine old statue of Elizabeth which once adorned Cumnor Hall was presented here in a garden till within the last few years. In the hill-fields above the village is the *Conduit* built by Otho Nicholson of Christ Church in 1617 to supply Carfax with water.

1 m. further S., across some fields, is *South Hinksey*, where John Piers, Archbishop of York, was born. Just before reaching the village is the entrance of the so-called *Happy*

Valley, a pretty walk emerging on the hill near Sunningwell, one of "the little valleys that debouche on the valley of the Thames behind the Hinkseys," beloved by Dr. Arnold. From the hill between the villages Turner took his view of Oxford.]

1 m. *Botley*. Here the road enters Berkshire. [rt. a pleasant lane winding through meadows leads to Wytham, or Witham (1½ m.). There is a fine view of Oxford the whole way, which will remind the Italian traveller of the distant views of Bologna.

Wytham Abbey (Earl of Abingdon) is an ancient-looking stone building surrounded by a moat, with a fine embattled gate-tower surmounted by 2 octangular turrets. It was built by one of the Harcourts, whose arms are to be seen upon a ceiling.

The manor of Wytham was early the property of the Wightams, who took their name from the place. They became extinct temp. Edw. IV. The manor afterwards passed to the Harcourts, from whom it went to the Crown. In 1539 it was granted to Lord Williams of Thame (the burner of the bishops), whose daughter and heiress brought it by marriage to Henry Lord Norris, son of the unhappy Sir Henry Norris executed on suspicion of being the lover of Anne Boleyn. It came to the Berties by the marriage of Montagu Bertie, Earl of Lindsay, to the daughter of Edward Wray, groom of the chamber to James I., whose wife Elizabeth was the daughter and heiress of Francis Lord Norris.

Close to the Hall is the *Ch.*, whose pointed windows were brought from Cumnor Hall, as well as the gateway of the churchyard, inscribed "*Janua vitæ verbum Domini*," to which was formerly added, "*Antonius Forster, 1571*." There are some brasses of the Wightams, and an almost obliterated monument of Edward Purcell, usher to Charles I.

Here was formerly a nunnery

founded by the sister of King Ceadwall, but deserted by the nuns in consequence of the erection of a castle at Wytham.

The *Wytham Woods*, stretching over the hill behind the Hall, are intersected by rides and drives of great beauty, chiefly through grass lanes. Admittance is only granted by a special order from Lord Abingdon. At the furthest point of the woods is a wild open space covered with thyme and cistus, whence there is a fine view over the Vale of Ensham. Here was situated the Castle of Kinewulf, King of the W. Saxons, which was besieged and taken by Offa, King of Mercia, who made it his palace.]

1½ m. rt. the road turns off to Ensham, Burford, and Cheltenham.

3 m. *Cumnor*, on the brow of the hill. This was formerly a seat of the abbots of Abingdon, was used by them as a place of retirement in case of sickness, and was given by Henry VIII. to the last abbot, Rowland, as a reward for his ready compliance in the surrender of the monastery. In 1560 the estate was bought by Anthony Forster, Esq., during whose residence here occurred the tragedy which has made the name of Cumnor familiar to the whole world.

Anne or Amy was daughter of Sir John Robsart, a man of high family and large property in Norfolk. She married Robert Lord Dudley at Sheen June 4, 1550, in the presence of Edward VI., as is stated in that king's journal. Her husband was raised by Elizabeth to the honours of Master of the Horse, Knight of the Garter, and Privy Councillor, and these dignities so inflamed his ambition that he ventured to aspire to the hand of his sovereign, an alliance to which Amy seemed the only barrier; and on Sept. 8, 1560, Lady Dudley, being then only 28 yrs. old, while staying with her husband's friend Anthony

Forster, was murdered under the mysterious circumstances which have been woven by Sir W. Scott into his novel of 'Kenilworth.' According to Ashmole, Forster and Sir Richard Varney first attempted to destroy her by poison, and, failing in this, forcibly sent her servants away to Abingdon-market, and then, "whether first stifling her or else strangling her, afterwards flung her down a pair of stairs and broke her neck, using much violence upon her." He adds that "Sir R. Varney, afterwards dying in London, cried miserably, and blasphemed God, saying that all the devils in hell did tear him in pieces; and that Forster, being formerly a man addicted to hospitality, company, mirth, and music, was afterwards observed to forsake all this, and, being affected with much melancholy (some say madness), pined and drooped away." The murder was never inquired into, in spite of an application which was made to the Secretaries of State, but the suspicion always rested upon Lord Dudley; and "amongst the reasons assigned to Elizabeth, why she should not marry him, by Cecil, afterwards Lord Burghley, was this, that he is infamed by the death of his wife." (*Lodge*.) Scott took great liberties with situation, as well as with history; and as he gave Amy the title of Countess, which her husband had not the power of bestowing till 4 yrs. after her death, and represented her as an inmate of Kenilworth, during the Queen's visit, 15 yrs. after, so he decked the unpretending monastic residence with lofty towers and spacious apartments; his first acquaintance with the story having been formed through Mickle's ballad of 'Cumnor.' In the neighbourhood the story was already well known:—

"Full many a traveller had sigh'd
And pensive wept the Countess' fall,
As wandering onwards they espied
The haunted towers of Cumnor Hall."

The mansion was actually a low quadrangular edifice surrounding a small court, in a close immediately adjoining the ch. on the W. The Dudley chamber, the supposed scene of the murder, was long shown, and the house was not entirely pulled down till 1811, when the windows and doorways were removed by Lord Abingdon to his new ch. at Wytham. 3 solitary arches long remained, but nothing is now left of the house, except the low wall adjoining the churchyard.

The ch. contains the tomb of Anthony Forster in grey marble with brasses. He is described as amiable and learned, a great musician, builder, and planter. He was probably a connexion of Lord Leicester, to whom he left Cumnor in his will.

In the village is an Inn with the sign of the "Bear and Ragged Staff;" but it has not existed many years.

Among the plants found at Cumnor are—*Gagea lutea*, *yellow star of Bethlehem*; *Lathræa squamaria*, *toothwort*; *Listera nidus avis*, *bird's-nest orchis*.

5 m. *Besilsleigh* (W. Lenthall, Esq.), which derived its name from the ancient family of Besils, who obtained the estate by marriage in 1350. Hence it passed to the Fettiplaces, by whom it was sold in 1634 to William Lenthall (the Speaker of the Long Parliament), from whom it descended to its present proprietor. The old manor-house is destroyed, except a picturesque fragment of the offices, now used as a farmhouse, and the massive stone pillars of the gateway, which stand isolated among the trees in the field. The old mansion surrounded a quadrangular court, and was very magnificent: Cromwell and other distinguished characters of the day are said to have been frequent guests there, and there still remains a tradition in the neighbourhood that

Cromwell was once concealed there. However that may be, it is certain that, on pulling down the building, a large room, or rather cell, was discovered, which had evidently been used as a place of concealment: it was in the lower part of the building, and the only access to it was by a chair lowered by pulleys from the top of the house. Here was once preserved the famous picture of Sir Thomas More's family now at Cokethorpe. In the peat-lands here, mole-crickets, called by the common people croakers, are found at certain times of the year. In the dusk of the evening their croaking may be heard at the distance of 1 m.

[1 m. rt. is *Appleton*, whose manor-house is the oldest in Berkshire; it is moated, and contains a Norm. doorway and some Norm. arches in the passage. Close by is the ch., in which is the fine tomb of Sir John Fettyplace, 1593.]

Fyfield. The ch. contains the tomb of Sir John Golafré, having his effigy in armour above, with his skeleton beneath. It is known by the common people as Gulliver's tomb.

There is a huge and magnificent *elm* here, 36 ft. in circumference, said to be the resort of witches, who dance here at midnight; also of—

"Maidens, who from the distant hamlets come,

To dance round Fyfield elm in May."

M. Arnold.

2 m. N. is Longworth, once the property of Sir H. Marten, father of the regicide, and the birthplace of Dr. Fell in 1625. There is a Roman entrenchment here called Cherbury Camp, said to be on the site of a palace of Canute.

13 m., 1 m. l. *Pusey* (Sydney Pusey, Esq.), said to have been granted to the original family of that name by Canute, by tenure of a horn, which is still preserved, with this inscription—

"Kynge Knoude gave William Pewse
Yys horn to holde by thy Loude."

The present family (of French Protestant origin) changed the name of Bouverie for that of Pusey on succeeding to the property.

The house contains a fine picture by *Gaspar Poussin*.

Here is one of the most remarkable farms in England, worthy of its late owner, the president and founder of the Agricultural Society. It is chiefly devoted to sheep-rearing. The water-meadows are worthy of note.

In the reign of Edward I. Alice Paternoster held lands here by service of saying a paternoster 5 times a-day, for the souls of the King's ancestors; and Richard Paternoster succeeding to an estate in this parish said the Lord's Prayer thrice before the barons of the exchequer, as John, his brother, had done previously, instead of paying a relief.

14 m., 1 m. rt. *Buckland* (Sir Rob. Throckmorton, Bart.). The house, built 1757, from designs of Wood of Bath, has some fine pictures, and a ceiling by *Cipriani*. Here are also valuable MSS., including many original letters of Cowper the poet.

A gallery leading to the dining-room contains some curious relics, among them a shift of Mary Queen of Scots, and a gold medal of Charles I., taken from the body of Sir Baynham Throckmorton (the last of the Gloucestershire branch of the family), in the S. aisle of St. Mark's Chapel in Bristol Cathedral. Here also is preserved a coat, the wonder of 1811, in which year it was made. In one day 2 sheep of Sir John Throckmorton were shorn, the wool spun, spooled, warped, loomed, and woven; the cloth burred, milled, dyed, dried, sheared, and pressed; after which the coat was made up by White, a Newbury tailor, and worn by Sir John in presence of 5000 spectators, within 13 hrs. 20 min. from the time the

sheep-shearing commenced. The scene is represented in a picture which still remains in the old adjoining ivy-grown house of the Yates family, from whom the estate came to the Throckmortons by marriage. The lower story is now occupied by the stables. At the back is a fine oriel window.

2 m. 1. *Stanford-in-the-Vale*, whose fine Gothic ch. is supposed to commemorate the marriage of its possessor, Lady Anne Neville, with the Duke of Gloucester.

17 m. *FARINGDON* (*Inn*: Crown. Pop. 5393). This town was once a residence of Saxon kings, and a castle was founded here in the reign of Stephen, of which no traces remain. Its site was granted by John in 1202 for a Cistercian abbey, an offshoot of Beaulieu. Faringdon is now only celebrated for its swine, of which 4000 head are slaughtered yearly.

The ch. is large and cruciform, and has lately been well restored; the stunted tower is late Norm.; the chancel, showing the transition from E. E. to Dec., has 3 fine sedilia. The Pye Chapel on the N. side is late Perp. There are some fine alabaster monuments. In the nave is the tomb of Sir Marmaduke Rawdon, who successfully defended the town against the Parliamentary forces. In the N. transept, formerly the chapel of the Unton family, are the tombs of Sir Alex. Unton and his lady, 1547, and of Sir Edward Unton, who, when ambassador for Elizabeth in France, sent a challenge to the Duke of Guise, who, in speaking evil of his mistress, "had most shamefully and wickedly lied."

Faringdon House (D. Bennett, Esq.), near the ch., was built by Pye the poet laureate, on the site of an ancient mansion, which was garrisoned for Charles I., and was one of the last places to surrender. Its then owner, Sir R. Pye, had married

Anne, the eldest daughter of Hampden, who was Colonel in the Parliamentary army, and himself headed the assault upon his daughter's house. It was during this attack that the ch. spire was beaten down. At Radcot Bridge in this parish was fought the battle between Vere Duke of Ireland, and the Earl of Derby, afterwards Henry IV.

"Here Oxford's hero, famous for his boar,
While clashing swords upon his target
sound,
And show'rs of arrows from his breast rebound,
Prepar'd for worst of fates, undaunted
stood;
And urg'd his beast into the rapid flood;
The waves in triumph bore him, and
were proud
To sink beneath their honourable load."

Thames and Isis.

1. *Faringdon Clump*, a grove of Scotch firs, on an eminence of iron-sand just outside the town, which is the chief landmark in the Vale of the White Horse, and commands an extensive view over the plain—

"Whence White Horse
Sends presents to the Thames by Ock, her
only flood."

This is the scene of Pye's exaggerated poem of 'Faringdon Hill.'

19 m. rt. *Great Coxwell*, having a barn built by the abbots of Beaulieu, to whom the manor was granted by King John, 1204. It measures 148 ft. by 40, with walls 4 ft. thick.

20 m. the road enters Gloucestershire, near *Coleshill House* (Earl of Radnor), erected by *Inigo Jones* in 1650, and retaining its original form. It is of a perfect quadrangular shape, and a fine specimen of its period, resembling a French château, its tall stone chimneys having the appearance of turrets at a distance. It contains a fine hall and many good family portraits, among which are several by *Sir J. Reynolds*, but the principal pictures of the Bouveries are at Longford in Wilts.

Here is preserved the waxen image of an infant, the last of the

Pleydells, with which, according to tradition, the fortunes of the possessors of Coleshill are indissolubly connected. The estate passed by marriage from the Pleydells to the Bouveries. In the hall are 9 niches, which, according to tradition, are filled by 9 black cats when any misfortune is about to befall the family. The river *Cole*, which gives a name to the place, glides through the valley on the W. of the Park. The *Ch.* contains the monument of Sir Henry Pratt, 1647; a curious circular window with the arms of Sir R. Mark Stuart and his lady; and a marble cenotaph, by *Rysbrack*, to their daughter, afterwards Countess of Radnor. The E. window, representing the Nativity, was brought from Angers 1787. The S. transept is the remains of a chapel built by Thomas Pleydell 1499. The village, built chiefly by the present Earl of Radnor, is remarkable for the uniform neatness of its cottages; the great model *farm* at Coleshill is celebrated.

22 m. *Highworth*. (See *Handb. for Gloucestershire*.)

ROUTE 8.

THE THAMES,

FROM GORING TO MAIDENHEAD,
BY PANGBOURNE, MAPLEDURHAM,
CAVERSHAM, SUNNING, SHIPLAKE,
WARGRAVE, HENLEY, MEDMEN-
HAM, HURLEY, BISHAM, MARLOW,
HEDSOR, COOKHAM [DROPMORE],
AND CLIEFDEN.

This is one of the most delightful expeditions which can be made in the S. of England, and takes the tourist, in the course of one summer's day, through the most beautiful scenery in each of the 3 counties of Berks, Oxfordshire, and Bucks, along a river which will fully justify the description of Denham:

"Though deep, yet clear; though gentle, yet not dull;
Strong without rage, without overflowing full."

(87 m. from London Bridge by the stream.)

Goring, which has a stat. on the Great Western Rly., is perhaps the best point for commencing a water excursion on the Thames, as Nuneham, which is the only point of much beauty higher up the river, is easily accessible by rail. Boats may be obtained either here, or at *Streatley* on the opposite bank. As the river during the whole excursion forms the boundary between Berkshire and Oxfordshire and Bucks, it has been thought better to describe both banks equally, instead of maintaining the distinction usually observed between counties in the Handbooks.

1. *Goring* (Oxon), formerly *Little Nottingham*. The *Ch. of St. Thomas*, close to the river, is worth visiting. Part of it is Norm. and very curious; at the N.W. corner of its embattled tower is a small round tourelle, with a conical top. Adjoining the ch. was once an *Augustine nunnery*,

founded temp. Henry II., and afterwards granted to Sir T. Pope, the founder of Trinity College, Oxford. Here is a stat. of the Great Western Rly., 1 m. distant from the river.

rt. *Streatley* (Berks), supposed to be so called from being situated on the ancient Icknield St., which here descended the hill and crossed the Thames by a ford to Goring. Some imagine this to have been the ancient Calleva, an opinion which is supported by its position on the Thames, by the 3 Roman roads, the Icknield St. and those from Winchester and Dorchester, which pass through it, and by the number of Roman remains which are constantly found there. *Streatley* is now united to Goring village by a wooden bridge over the Thames, but $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Goring Stat. It is an exceedingly pretty village, and is situated on a platform between the river and the steep escarpment of the hills; in summer it is a favourite resort of artists. Sir Samuel Shepherd, the eminent Chief Baron, was a native of this place; he died here, and is buried in the churchyard.

The Chalk Downs, sprinkled with yews and junipers, rise abruptly behind *Streatley* on the S. From *Green Hill* there is a beautiful and extensive view. *Unwell Wood*, on a spur of the hills, is celebrated for its orchises, as the down is for its excellent coursing matches. In these woods also is found the *Convallaria multiflora*, or *Solomon's seal*.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. are the curious tombs at Aldworth, described in Rte 3. The hilly road from *Streatley* to *Pangbourne* affords some picturesque views.

Goring Lock.—Falls, 3 ft. The river here is wide and beautiful; a large island is covered with fine trees. A melancholy accident occurred here in 1674, when 60 persons were drowned in the lock in returning from Goring Feast. The accident is described in a rare tract,

called 'Sad and deplorable News from Oxfordshire and Berkshire,' proving that this was one of the signs of the Day of Judgment.

rt. 2 m. *The Grotto* (—Sykes, Esq.)

rt. $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Basilden*. The river, which is here crossed by the Rly., makes a sudden bend amidst beautiful woods. *Basilden Park* (J. Morrison, Esq.) contains a fine collection of pictures, described Rte. 3.

1. *Lower Basilden*.

1. *Whitchurch Park* (Col. Gardiner).

rt. 4 m. *Pangbourne* (Berks). *Inn*: George. This village, which derives its name from the *Pang*, a famous trout-stream, is a great resort of anglers and artists, has a Stat. on the Great Western Rly., and is one of the most picturesque villages upon the river. In this parish is *Bere Court*, described by Leland as the "fair manor-place of brick" of the abbots of Reading, the last of whom, Hugh Faringdon, constantly resided here. His portrait in stained glass adorned the E. window of the chapel, habited in his robes, and kneeling before a crucifix, with a scroll proceeding out of his mouth, inscribed, "In te Domine speravi." It was afterwards the abode of Sir J. Davis, a famous sea-captain, in the reign of Elizabeth, who was involved in the fall of his patron Essex, and sentenced to death, but was afterwards reprieved, and is buried in *Pangbourne Ch.*

rt. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Tidmarsh Ch.*; 4 m. *Bradfield*. (See Rte. 3.)

1. *Whitchurch* (Oxon), a large village, separated from *Pangbourne* by a wooden toll bridge, built 1792. The ch. is modernised, its Perp. porch being turned into a vestry. (*Whitchurch Lock* falls 3 ft.)

1. *Hardwick House* (P. L. Powys, Esq.), a fine red-brick Tudor manor-house, frequently pillaged in the civil wars. The S. front was erected by Anthony Lybbe, after the resto-

ration of Charles II. The banks of the river are here exceedingly beautiful; green lawns studded with noble trees slope down from the hills.

1. *Colten's End*, where Chas. I. was allowed to play at bowls at the little inn, while staying at Caversham.

1. 6 m. *Mapledurham* (Oxon), M. H. Blount, Esq., celebrated by Pope as the place whither his love Martha Blount retired from London, when

"She went to plain-work, and to purling brooks,
Old-fashion'd balls, dull aunts, and croaking rooks."

The house is the same in which Theresa and Martha Blount died, and is a venerable and beautiful Elizabethan mansion, built by Sir Mich. Blount 1523, and fortified by Sir Chas. Blount for the king in the civil wars. A fine oak staircase, with carved vases of flowers upon the landings, leads to the upper story. The rooms are full of pictures, chiefly family portraits, including Sir M. Blount, 1530, and his two sons Thos. and Chas.; Lord Mountjoy, to whom the portrait of Elizabeth was probably a present; Martha Blount as a child and grown up, and again with her sister Theresa, in a beautiful picture by *Jarvis*; Pope, *Jarvis*.

The ch., which stands embowered in trees near the river, has a S. aisle, which is the ancestral burial-place of the Blounts, containing a fine tomb of Sir Rich. Blount and his wife Elizabeth. There are also some fine brasses. (Mapledurham Lock. Falls 5 ft.)

6 m. rt. *Purley* (Berks). *Purley Hall*, J. Wilder, Esq., was the residence of Warren Hastings at the time of his celebrated trial. (See Rte. 3.)

11 m. l. *Caversham*. The ch. of St. Peter is picturesque; the tower and N. side were destroyed during the great rebellion; in the ch. is

[*B. B. & O.*]

preserved a proclamation of James, appointing days for touching for the king's evil. Here was formerly a priory of black canons, a cell of Nutley Abbey, which was said to contain the spear which pierced our Saviour, "brought hither by an angel with one wing; a peice of the holy halter Judas hanged withall; the holy dagger of King Henry VI.; and the holy knife that killed Sainte Edward; with many other." Hence a bridge crosses the river to Reading, below which on an island was fought the wager of battle between Rob. de Montfort and Henry de Essex, in the presence of Henry II. At Caversham died the great William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, hero of the battle of Lincoln, and Protector of Henry III. The place was strongly fortified during the civil wars by the king's forces, who were however driven from their post by the Earl of Essex. He planted his ordnance on the height, by which he was able so to injure the town of Reading, that, after many houses were destroyed, the governor, who was himself wounded, offered to surrender, if his soldiers might depart with all the honours of war, which at first was refused. Charles and Prince Rupert, in spite of a partial defeat at Dorchester, advanced to the rescue as far as Caversham Bridge, where a fierce fight ensued, in which they were completely repulsed; after this the garrison surrendered, but were allowed to march out with their arms, ammunition, and colours. Here

"Old South, a witty preacher reckon'd,"

lived while preparing his celebrated sermons for the press.

1. on the hill is *Caversham Park* (W. Crawshaw, Esq.). In the original mansion Queen Anne of Denmark was splendidly entertained by Lord Knowles in 1613. There also, on the 3rd of July, 1647, the children of Charles I. were allowed to meet

him, when they spent two days together, "which was the greatest satisfaction the king could have, and the receiving whereof he imputed to the civility of General Fairfax and the good disposition of the army."—*Clarendon*. Evelyn, coming here a few years later, saw "my Lord Craven's house at Caversham all in ruins, his goodly woods felling by the rebels." Caversham Park was destroyed for the second time by fire in 1850, after which the present house was built.

In *Caversham Warren* is found the *Orchis aranifera*, or *spider orchis*.

Caversham Lock. Falls, 4 ft. 6 in. rt. READING, the capital of Berks, described Rte. 3.

12 m. rt., just below Reading, the Thames is joined by

"The Kennet swift, for silver eels renown'd."
Pope.

rt. *Earley Court* (Chas. Stephens, Esq.), where Lord Stowell died, is seen across the rich flat meadows.

rt. The woody heights are those of *Holme Park* (R. Palmer, Esq.), which commands a lovely view over the river.

Sonning Lock. Falls, 4 ft.

14 m. rt. *Sonning* (Berks) (*Inn*: *White Hart*, close to the river, a clean public-house, resorted to by anglers, with hanging woods, in a lovely situation, close to the river, which is here crossed by a bridge whose records are older than those of any other on the Thames. In Saxon times this was the site of a bishopric, and history retains the names of its 11 bishops, viz., Athelstan, Odo, Osulf, Alfstan, Alfgar, Sigeric, Alfric, Brightwold, Heremann (who united the bishopric of Sherborne to his own, and first fixed his pontifical throne for both at Sonning, but, "in the reign of Edward the Elder, transferred his see thence to Sherbourne, by synodal authority and that king's munificence"), Oswald, and Roger. After the deposition of

Richard II., his child-wife, Isabella of Valois, fled hither to the Bishop of Salisbury, who still resided at Sonning, which remained in the diocese of Salisbury. The bishops retained their palace here till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was exchanged with the Crown; the site of the palace is now marked by an aged ash-tree on a rising ground above the river.

Before the Reformation there existed here a chapel of St. Sarac, which was a celebrated place of pilgrimage for the cure of madness. The oldest portion of the present beautiful *Church* (of St. Andrew, whose image is over the N. porch) dates from 1200. The S. aisle is Dec. in the best style. The most remarkable feature is a sculptured arch in the N. chancel aisle, the keystone of which bears the arms of the see of Salisbury, while on one side is a representation of Christ blessing the 12 Apostles, and on the other kings and queens crowned. The brass of Lawrence Fytton, bailiff of Sonning, is 1434. Lord Stowell is buried here; his monument has a long inscription by H. Addington, Lord Sidmouth. The ch. was restored in 1853.

In a house in the upper part of the village Sydney Smith wrote 'Peter Plymley's Letters.' Sir Wm. Scott, afterwards Lord Stowell, lived at Earley Court in this parish. At a house called the Grove, Miss Rich was in the habit of receiving Pitt, Wyndham, Addington, Adm. Villeneuve (who lost the battle of Trafalgar), with many distinguished French émigrés.

17 m. l. *Shiplake* (Oxon). The ch., situated on a chalk cliff, picturesquely overhanging one of the finest bends on the river, is remarkable for its old wood carving and its 7 rich stained windows from the ruined ch. of St. Bertin at St. Omer, sacked during the 1st French Revolution. The embattled tower is pro-

fusely covered with ivy; the S. aisle, the oldest part of the edifice, was probably the original ch. Here James Granger, author of the 'Biographical History of England,' died at the altar whilst administering the Holy Communion, April 14, 1776.

"Such privilege what saint e'er knew?
To whom such honour shown?

His Saviour's death in rapturous view,
And unperceived his own."

Here Alfred Tennyson was married. (Shiplake Lock. Falls, 3 ft. 6 in.) rt. 17½ m. The Thames receives the river *Loddon*, here divided into several distinct channels—

"The Loddon slow, with silver alders
crown'd,"

of Pope, who also celebrates it as the nymph *Lodona* in his 'Windsor Forest,' in an imitation of the story of *Alpheus* and *Arethusa*.

18 m. rt. *Wargrave* (Berks). *Inn*: *George and Dragon*. Here is a ferry across the river. Here the river is crossed by the Henley branch of the Great Western Rly. The ch. contains the monument of Mr. Day, author of 'Sandford and Merton,' who was killed here by a fall from his horse.

Wargrave Hill was the residence of Joseph Hill, Cowper's friend, the "Nephew Hill" to whom so many of his letters are addressed.

1. 1 m. *Harpden* (Oxon), whose ch., lately restored, contains a cross-legged effigy and some good brasses, one to Walter Elwes, rector, 1511.

Harpden Court (J. F. Hodges, Esq.) formerly contained 7 halls, of which one was called the "Beggars' Hall." Queen Mary once spent several days here.

20 m. *Marsh Lock*. Falls, 4 ft. 6 in.

21 m. 1. *Henley*. *Inn*: *Red Lion*, close to the bridge, an excellent, old-fashioned country inn, with very reasonable charges. On a pane of

glass in a parlour window of the *Red Lion*, *Shenstone* wrote the lines—

"Whoe'er has travell'd life's dull round,
Where'er his stages may have been,
May sigh to think that he has found
His warmest welcome at an inn."

Henley (from *Hen*, old, and *Lye*, place, anciently called *Hannlegang* and *Hanneburg*)—Pop. 3622—was never a very lively town, but is duller than ever since the rly. abstracted the traffic through it to Oxford, Birmingham, and Liverpool. It stands, however, on one of the most beautiful spots in the whole course of the Thames, the broad and full river being here flanked by gentle hills, or cliffs covered with hanging woods.

The *Ch.*, which has been lately restored, is conspicuous from its square Perp. tower, said to have been built by *Wolsey*, and stands so close to the *Red Lion* that its E. window is blocked up by the inn. At its W. end is the effigy, wrapped up in a cloak, of Lady Elizabeth Periam, sister of the great Lord Bacon, and benefactress of *Baliol College*, at Oxford, 1621. A slab near the S. door, with the inscription, "Ici repose le Général Dumouriez," marks the grave of that officer, who died at *Turville Park*, 1823, aged 83, on the first anniversary of his taking up his abode there. In the vestry is a library left by *Dean Aldrich* (1729), rector of *Henley*, as the foundation of a parochial library, but never added to. In the churchyard is buried *Rich. Jennings*, the master-builder of *St. Paul's Cathedral*.

1½ m. N.W. of *Henley* is *Rotherfield Greys*, with the interesting old *Greys Court* and a magnificent tomb of *Lord Knollys* in the ch. (See Rte. 19.) At *Greys*, the parish adjoining *Henley*, are a neat Gothic ch. and schools by *Ferrey*, 1849. *Wm. Lenthall*, Speaker of the Long Parliament, was born there 1591.

A branch line of the *Grt. Western*

Rly., diverging at Twyford, affords the easiest approach to Henley from London.

[This is the last place in Oxfordshire. There is a beautiful road hence along the Buckinghamshire bank of the river, by which all the places on that side may be visited. At Danesfield it passes through the beautiful *Rassla Woods*, whence it descends *Red-Pits Hill* to Marlow. After passing Cookham the road ascends the hills and passes between the beautiful parks of Hedsor, Dropmore, and Cleifden, descending upon Maidenhead by Taplow Court.]

The road on the Berkshire side of the river ascends the hill by Park Place to the pretty village of Hurley, whence pleasant bye-roads and lanes may be followed through Bisham and Cookham to Maidenhead.]

The river is crossed at Henley by a handsome bridge of Headington stone, built 1786, and adorned with sculptured masks of the Thames and the Isis, by the *Hon. Mrs. Damer*, daughter of Gen. Conway, of Park Place. Passing the bridge, the beautiful reach of the river is entered, lined by tall poplars, and backed by the luxuriant woods of Park Place, where the celebrated Henley Regatta is held. This, which may be considered as the parent of all amateur regattas, had its origin in a contest between the 2 Universities on this reach in 1829, which excited so much interest as to suggest the idea of its becoming annual. This was first actually carried out in the regatta, June 14, 1839, since which it has obtained a universal popularity. "We have seen on the Oxford water, during the season, 18 or 19 boats in daily competition; at Cambridge a yet greater number have been found similarly struggling for that superiority which has usually decided the question, 'Who shall row at Henley?'"—

Bell's Life.

22 m. rt. 1 m. *Park Place* (F. Maitland, Esq.) has beautiful hanging woods upon the chalk cliff. The grounds contain a Druidical temple, presented to Gen. Conway by the inhabitants of Jersey, and removed from a hill near St. Helier's in that island in 1785. It consists of 45 stones, and is 66 ft. in circumference. Among the trees is a fine cedar planted by George III.

1. 23 m. 1½ m. (Bucks) *Fawley Court* (Edw. Mackenzie, Esq.). The old manor-house of Sir Bulstrode Whitelock, son of Judge Whitelock, who died here 1632, author of the 'Memorials,' was terribly injured by the royalist soldiers under Sir John Byron, quartered here in 1642, when the valuable library was destroyed; "of divers writings of consequence and books which were found in the study, some they tore in pieces, and others they employed to light their tobacco, and others they carried away." The present house was built by *Wren*, 1684.

The *ch.* is fitted up with relics brought in 1748 from Cannons, the seat of the Duke of Chandos, near Edgeware; the carving of the pulpit and altar is by *Gibbons*. In the S. chapel is a large monument, with effigies of Sir James and Lady Whitelock, 1632. The churchyard contains a fine yew-tree.

Here is the *Island*, whence the boats start for Henley Bridge in the regatta. The river below this is frequently studded with islands of this kind, which are often planted with large trees, such as ash and abeles. The smaller islands are called *Eyots* or *Aits*; "these occur everywhere, sometimes singly and far apart, and sometimes in clusters, and are almost as various and beautiful as they are numerous. They are generally planted with osiers; and as they occur in the shallows, are frequently surrounded by rushes, while the willow-herb, loosestrife, and similar flowers, encompass them

with a belt of brilliant colours."—*Thorne*.

23½ m. l. Greenland House (Edw. Majoribanks, Esq.). The old house underwent a siege of 6 months by the Parliamentary forces (1644) in the time of Sir John d'Oyley, when the garrison was forced to capitulate and the building almost destroyed. The fortifications raised during the siege are still visible.

[1. 1 m. *Hambleton*. This manor was long a seat of the Scropes. The present *Manor-house* (Mrs. Scott Murray) was built by the Earl of Sunderland 1604. Charles I. took refuge here with Mr. Ashburnham and Mr. Hudson, April 28, 1646, on his way to St. Albans, and escaped by the connivance of Whitelock. "The *ch.* has been much patched and modernized. It is a large cross *ch.* of flint, with a modern W. tower (1721); there seems to have been originally a Norm. tower at the intersection, and there are portions of the 3 later styles. There is a good Norm. font, a S. door with good plain mouldings, and 3 stalls, and a water-drain in the chancel, with ogee heads and good crocketed canopies."—*Rickman*. In the N. transept are some curious brasses of the Sheepwash family, with sheep in a wash-brook; many of the Scrope family are buried in the chancel. In the N. aisle is a fine alabaster monument of Sir Cope d'Oyley, his wife and 10 children, with a quaint epitaph by Quarles, the brother of Lady d'Oyley, who

"Was in spirit a Jael,
Rebecca in grace, in heart an Abigail;
In works a Dorcas, to the Church a Hannah,
And to her spouse Susannah.
Prudently simple, providently wary,
To the world a Martha, and to heaven a Mary."

Here also is buried Thomas, 2nd Lord Sandes of the Vine, without an inscription. Hambleton was the birthplace of St. Thomas (Cantilupe) of Hereford, who was baptised

in the *ch.*, in the Norm. font which still exists. In consequence of the property which he possessed at Hambleton, Edmund Earl of Cornwall founded a magnificent shrine at Asheridge in honour of this saint.

[At the end of the Hambleton Valley is *Fingest*, where the Bishops of Lincoln had a palace, and where Bp. Burghersh is buried, who could not rest in his grave until the encroachments he had made on the common to enlarge his park had been restored—his ghost appearing "in a keeper's dress," and begging that the portions illegally taken might be disparked.]

rt. *Culham Court* (Berks), Miss West.

1. *Yewden* (Miss Hind), remarkable for its curious old yew-hedge.

25 m. l., in a lovely and secluded situation, close to the river, by a little inn and ferry-house, are the small remains of *Medmenham Abbey*, which, though so much patched up and added to (the tower and cloister being modern) that it is difficult to distinguish which are the really old parts, is still very picturesque. This was an offshoot, in 1200, from the Cistercian monastery at Woburn, but gradually fell into decay through the poverty of its inhabitants, so that at the dissolution they were only two, and its revenues 11. 3s. 6d. The abbot was Epistolar of the Order of the Garter at Windsor, his office being to read the Epistle at the feast of St. George. Over the door in the ivy-covered gable at the side of the building is the inscription "Fay ce que voudras," a memorial of another order, who took this sentence as their motto, and lived here in the middle of the last century, calling themselves Franciscans, from their founder Francis Dashwood, afterwards Lord le Despencer. All that took place at Medmenham was then wrapped in mystery: the workmen who furnished and adorned the abbey were

never allowed to pass the doors, and were hurried back to London as soon as their work was finished; and the servants were prohibited all intercourse with the neighbourhood. Some of the scenes enacted here are described in 'Chrysal, or the Adventures of a Guinea,' in which the mysterious rites appear to have been Bacchic festivals, Devil-worship, and a mockery of all the rites of religion, with every worst form of debauchery; but Langley, in his 'Hundred of Desborough,' maintains that this account is much exaggerated. One night, in the midst of their orgies, the profligate party were overwhelmed with terror at the apparition of a huge ape, hideously attired, which had been lowered down the chimney; they for a long time believed that the fiend himself had appeared among them, and their meetings were then finally broken up. The Franciscans always slept in cradles, and a fragment of the cradle of Wilkes, who was one of the members, is still shown here as a relic. All other traces of the society are now swept away, except the motto, but some of the pictures from Medmenham, representing the mysteries, are preserved at the Thatched House Tavern in London. The Swan-uppers used to have a great annual dinner at Medmenham.

1 m. distant is *Bockmer Manor-house*, the residence of John Borlase, whom Charles II. and Nell Gwyn rode to visit.

1. 26 m. *Danesfield* (C. R. S. Scott Murray, Esq.), so called from an ancient horseshoe entrenchment of great extent near the house, supposed to be of Danish origin. The beautiful woods which clothe the steep escarpment of the hills towards the river abound in holly, yew, and box, which is here considered to be indigenous, and, like those of Cliefden, on a smaller scale, they are intersected by winding walks, with lovely

views over the valley. The house is large and handsome. Attached to it is a Roman Catholic chapel commenced by *Pugin*, and completed by his son, which contains a rich altarpiece representing scenes in the history of St. Carlo Borromeo, a beautiful crucifix by *Seitz*, and some curious old pictures of the history of the Virgin. The room leading to the chapel contains a fine picture of Pope Pius IX., by *Seitz*. In the house is preserved a withered hand, which is, with some reason, supposed to be that presented by Henry I. to Reading Abbey, and revered there as the hand of St. James the Apostle. It answers exactly to "the incorrupt hand" described by Hoveden, and was found among the ruins of the abbey, where it is supposed to have been secreted at the dissolution. Till the dispersion of the Reading Museum it was shown there as the "Hand of St. James."

Below Danesfield, just above New Lock, the river is bounded on the l. by high chalk-cliffs, which abound in fossils.

1. *Harleyford* (Sir Wm. Clayton, Bt.), designed by Sir Robert Taylor, is beautifully situated, and contains some fine pictures. The road between Danesfield and Harleyford winds through beautiful pine and beech woods of forest-like character, called *Rassla*.

27 m. rt. *Hurley*, a picturesque village with old timber houses. In a park-like meadow, with cedars, surrounded by the original walls, at the end of a secluded lane, are the remains of the famous *Lady Place*, once the residence of Richard Lord Lovelace, so celebrated in the revolution of 1688. "This mansion, built by his ancestors out of the spoils of Spanish galleons from the Indies, rose on the ruins of a house of our Lady in this beautiful valley, through which the Thames, not yet defiled by the precincts of a great

capital, rolls under woods of beech, and round the gentle hills of Berks. Beneath the stately saloon, adorned by Italian pencils, was a subterranean vault, in which the bones of ancient monks had sometimes been found. In this dark chamber some zealous and daring opponents of the government held many midnight conferences during that anxious time when England was impatiently expecting the Protestant wind."—*Macaulay*, vol. ii. The house itself, which was "a perplexing labyrinth of panelled rooms," some of the paintings on which were attributed to Salvator Rosa, was entirely destroyed in 1837, and the vaults, covered by a mound of green turf, are now all that remain. An inscription records their foundation at the time of the great Norman revolution, and the part they played in that of 1688, "on which account they were visited by the Prince of Orange after he came to the throne." The last inhabitant of Lady Place was the brother of Admiral Kempenfelt, and here he and the Admiral planted two thorn-trees which he took a great pride in. One day on coming home he found that the tree planted by the Admiral had withered away, and said, "I feel sure that this is an omen that my brother is dead;" that evening came the news of the loss of the 'Royal George.'

The magnificent inlaid staircase of Lady Place was removed to some house in the N. of England.. The painted panels were sold in one lot for 1000*l*. There is a view and description of Old Lady Place in the 'Gentleman's Magazine' for 1831.

Hurley is remarkable for all the fossils of the tertiary formation, including fine specimens of the elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, &c.

The *Ch.*, founded 1086, by Geoffrey de Mandeville, a famous soldier in the battle of Hastings, was consecrated by St. Osmund, Bp. of Salisbury, and annexed to Westminster

Abbey, after which it became the burial-place of Edith, sister of Edward the Confessor. It still presents some curious Norm. details; other fragments of the priory are to be traced in the different farm-buildings. *Hurley Lock*. Falls 3 ft. 4 in.

No one who sees this part of the river can avoid being struck by the beautiful swans which are here so common. "The Thames swans are property; the principal owners being the Dyers' and Vintners' Companies. The nests of the swans are built on the aits, or in the osier-beds beside the river. They are compact structures formed of twigs and osiers, or reeds, and are so built as to be out of the reach of the water, every pair of swans having its 'walk' or proper district within which others do not build."

"A great deal of pains is taken to preserve the swans, and a waterman, or some person living near the swans'-walk, generally has charge of each pair, and receives a small sum for every cygnet that is reared. It is his duty to see that the nests are not disturbed, and to prevent as much as possible the eggs from being stolen; he also, within the influence of the tide at least, builds the foundation of the nest. The mark of the Vintners' Company is *two nicks*, from which came the well-known sign of the Swan with two nicks, or, as corrupted, *necks*."—*Thorne*.

The City authorities used to go up the river every year in August, in gaily-decorated barges, to mark and count their swans—an expedition called "*Swan-upping*," from the duties of the official visitors to take up the swans and mark them. The 'Upping-days began on the Monday after St. Peter's day. The "Uppers" had a difficult task, as, the swans being very strong, scuffling with them in the tangles of the river is exceedingly dangerous, and recourse had to be taken to strong crooks called "Swan-hooks."

3 m. S. *Hall Place* (Sir Gilbert East, Bt.).

rt. 28 m., shrouded in magnificent trees, *Bisham Abbey* (G. Vansittart, Esq.), the most interesting house in Berks. The scenery of this beautiful spot is well known from the pictures of De Wint and other water-colour artists, who have portrayed the broad sweep of the transparent river, the gigantic trees, the ch., and the abbey with its mossy roof, projecting oriels, and tall tower, in every effect of cloud or sunshine. It has also been the burial-place of more historical personages than perhaps any other country-place in England.

The first accurate information about Bisham, or Bustleham, as it was then called, is that it was a Preceptory of Knights Templars, and that in the reign of Stephen it passed from one set of Knights to another. In 1338 it was turned into a priory (the chief of 5 monasteries) by Montacute Earl of Salisbury. Among the noble persons interred in the conventual ch. were Montacute Earl of Salisbury, the patron, moved here from Cirencester; William Earl of Salisbury, his son, who fought at Poitiers; his son John Earl of Salisbury, beheaded and attainted 1400; his son Thomas Earl of Salisbury, who died at the siege of Orleans in 1428; his son-in-law Richard Neville Earl of Salisbury, beheaded at York in 1460 for his attachment to the Lancastrian cause; his 2 sons, Richard Neville, the King-maker, and John Marquis of Montague, who fell in the battle of Barnet, 1471; and his grandson Edward Plantagenet Earl of Warwick (son of George Duke of Clarence, by Richard Neville's daughter Isabel), beheaded in 1499 for attempting his escape from the Tower. None of these monuments exist now, though they were not destroyed at the dissolution, but were standing in the hall *within the last century*. The last

Prior, Barlow, was made Bishop of St. David's, and, afterwards marrying, had 5 daughters, who each married a bishop.

Bisham was granted by Henry VIII. to his repudiated wife Anne of Cleves, but, owing to his dying soon after the grant was made, and to the troubles of Edward VI., the privy-seal was not actually affixed to the deed till Mary. Of her time a letter remains in the British Museum from Anne of Cleves, entreating the Queen for the sake of their dear father and brother to allow her to exchange Bisham with Sir Philip Hobby for his house in Kent.

Sir Philip Hobby was the last English papal legate at Rome, where he died, and his brother Sir Thomas was ambassador in France, where he died also, 1566. The widow of the latter had both their bodies brought back to Bisham, with a magnificent monument still to be seen in the ch., on which, being the most learned lady of the period, she wrote 3 epitaphs in Greek, Latin, and English, one of them ending in the lines,

"Give me, O God! a husband like unto Thomas,

Or else restore me to my husband Thomas;" which prayer was fulfilled in her marriage at the end of a year to Sir Thomas Russell.

The two sisters of Lady Hobby (daughters of Sir Antony Cooke) were Lady Bacon and Lady Burleigh, and to them was given the care of the Princess Elizabeth, but they, not liking the office, were allowed partially to transfer their trust to their brother-in-law Sir Thomas Hobby, who succeeded Sir Philip at Bisham. In this way Elizabeth came to spend part of 3 yrs. here, when the bow-window in the council-chamber was thrown out for her and the dais erected 16 in. above the floor. That her residence at Bisham was not disagreeable is seen from her speech to Sir Thomas when he first went to

court after she became Queen: "If I had a prisoner whom I wanted to be most carefully watched, I should intrust him to your *charge*; if I had a prisoner I wished to be most tenderly treated, I should intrust him to your *care*."

The octagonal tower, the hall, and the pointed doorway are part of the original foundation of Stephen; the rest of the building, which is a fine specimen of the Tudor style, was built by the Hobbies.

The hall, which was beautifully restored 1859, has a fine ancient lancet window of 3 lights at one end, and a dark oak gallery at the other. Here is a picture of Lady Hobby, with a very white face and hands, dressed in the coif, weeds, and wimple, then allowed to a Baronet's widow. In this dress she is still supposed to haunt a bed-room, where she appears with a self-supported basin moving before her, in which she is perpetually trying to wash her hands; but it is remarkable that the apparition is always in the negative, the black part white, the white black. The legend is that, because her child William Hobby could not write without making blots, she beat him to death. It is remarkable that 20 yrs. ago in altering the window-shutter a quantity of children's copy-books of the time of Elizabeth were discovered, pushed into the rubble between the joists of the floor, and that one of these was a copy-book which answered exactly to the story, as if the child could not write a single line without a blot.

Behind the tapestry in one of the bed-rooms (representing the history of Tobit) a secret room was discovered with a fireplace, the chimney of which is curiously connected with that of the hall for the sake of concealing the smoke.

Tradition tells that, when Montacute Earl of Salisbury was going to the crusades, he came with all his

train for last prayers at the abbey he had founded, and his daughter, then at the convent at Marlow, came hither with all her nuns to meet him. A squire, who had been in love with her before, seized the opportunity for elopement, and they escaped in a boat, but were taken at Marlow. She was sent back to her convent, and he was shut up in the Tower, whence he tried to escape by means of a rope which he made from his clothes torn into shreds; the rope broke and he was dreadfully injured, and was taken into the abbey, where he afterwards became a monk.

The *Bath* of Princess Elizabeth remained in the grounds at Bisham within the last 20 yrs.; the spring is still left.

The *Conventual Barn* of Spanish chestnut still remains, and the original moat round the garden.

rt. the *Ch.*, beautifully situated on the river-bank. Some traces of the small Norm. ch. are still to be seen on the N. side, but the whole was modernised in execrable taste about 50 yrs. since, though it has lately been restored to much of its pristine character. The *Hobby Window* is remarkable as a good specimen of the decadence of the art; it contains a shield said to be the richest in England. There are some splendid monuments of the Hobbies, with very queer effigies in armour; and a pyramid with 4 swans to Margaret Hobby, daughter of Sir H. Hunsdon and niece of Anne Boleyn.

l. 29 m. *Great Marlow* (Bucks). *Inn*: Crown. , Pop. 4450. A large market-town returning 2 M.P.'s. The manor belonged to the Nevilles (whence they came to be buried at Bisham), and thus fell to Lady Anne, to whom, after she had been disseised of this and others, they were restored (3 Henry VII.) for life, on condition of her conveying them to the king. The manor was part of Queen Mary's maintenance

when princess. On coming to the throne she granted it to Lord Paget, the confidential friend of 4 successive sovereigns, d. 1563.

The *Ch.* of All Saints is ugly modern Gothic, with a spire like itself of stucco, 1835. It was erected in the place of a beautiful old ch., and cost the extraordinary sum of 16,000*l.* In the vestibule is a picture of "*the Spotted Boy*," an extraordinary *lusus naturæ*. The pretty modern *Rom. Catholic Ch.*, by Pugin, is considered one of the best of his small churches; a convent is attached to it. The *Town-hall* was erected by Wyatt. The house known as the *Old Deanery* has an ancient kitchen and 2 fine Gothic windows, with flamboyant tracery. Shelley lived here in 1817, and wrote his '*Revolt of Islam*' "in his boat as it floated under the groves of Bisham, or during wanderings in the neighbouring country, which is distinguished for its beauty."

rt. of the bridge is a curious old building, a monastic barn of Bisham Abbey, in which the French prisoners were kept during the war. The query, "Who ate puppy-pie under Marlow Bridge?" the ordinary "chaff" for every Bargee down the river, had its origin in the story of the landlord of the inn at Medmenham, who, having notice that the bargemen intended to plunder his larder, baked a pie of young puppies, which they took and ate under Marlow Bridge, believing them to be rabbits.

Seymour Court, on the hill above Marlow, is believed by the natives to have been the residence of Jane Seymour, who really lived at Wolf Hall in Wilts. There is a fine view thence over the town and valley.

The situation of Marlow and the views across the river, where the tower and gables of Bisham Abbey rise on the opposite bank, are delightful.

Marlow Lock. Falls 5 ft. 6 in.

1. 31 m. *Little Marlow.* Here was a small Benedictine nunnery, founded temp. John. In the ch. is the tomb of the builder of the chancel, Nicholas de Ledwyck, 1430.

1. 2 m. *Wooburn.* The Bishops of Lincoln formerly had a palace here. Adjoining their chapel was a small room called Little-Ease (which existed as a coal-hole within the last 50 yrs.), for the confinement of heretics, where Thomas Chase, of Amersham, 1506, was "barbarously butchered" by strangling, and was afterwards buried in Norland Wood, between this and Little Marlow. Fuller inclines to the belief that William Smith, founder of Brazenose College, the then Bishop of Lincoln, was innocent of his death. The manor having been alienated by Bishop Holbeach, the Goodwin family removed hither, of whom Sir Francis Goodwin, the friend of Hampden, was several times knight of the shire. "The dispute concerning the legality of his election, 1604, proved the cause of establishing the great constitutional doctrine that the House of Commons have the sole right of judging and deciding on the validity of their own elections and returns."—*Lysons*. After the death of his son Sir Arthur Goodwin, Wooburn became the residence of Philip, "the good Lord Wharton," who had married Jane, daughter of Sir Arthur. He was an adherent of Cromwell, and one of his House of Lords, and a great friend of Puritan teachers, who, when exiled, found an asylum and a home at Wooburn, where he received William III. soon after his accession. On his death he left a charge on his estates to supply a certain number of Bibles annually to every parish where he had property, which are still furnished by his representatives. He was succeeded, 1715, by his son Philip, immortalised in the verses of Pope, created Duke of Wharton 1718. He resided here

in great magnificence, and spent 100,000*l.* on the gardens alone. Nothing is now left of the buildings but part of the stables and a dovecot. The moat and fish-pond still exist, with a stately row of poplars, and an Oriental plane 18 ft. in girth; traces of the terraces may still be seen cut in the hill, where the gardens were laid out. The present mansion of *Woodburn House* (Dr. Gregg), built on the site of the old stables, is occupied as a school.

The *Ch.*, which is Trans.-Norm., with a square Perp. tower at W. end, contains some monuments of the Whartons, and some good brasses—among them, John Goodwin and Purcell his wife, "first founders of the stepull of Uburne Deyncourt," 1488; and Thomas Swaine, Prebendary of Aylesbury, Bp. Atwater's chaplain, 1519.

The manor of *Woodburn Deyncourt* belonged to Francis Viscount Lovell, immortalised in the lines,—

"The cat, the rat, and Lovel the dog,
Rule all England under the hog."

A fragment of the old house remains to the W. of the ch.

Before reaching Cookham the river is crossed by the Rly. to High Wycombe.

rt. 32 m. *Cookham. Inn*: Old Bell and the Dragon, much resorted to by anglers. The *Ch.* is E. E., with a good tower of flint at the W. end. It contains the tomb of Norreys, cook to Eleanor, Queen of Henry III., and several good brasses. In the N. wall of the chancel is the canopied altar-tomb of Robert Pecke, "Master-clerk of the Spycery under K. Harry the Sixt," 1517. A marble monument by *Flaxman* represents the death of Sir Isaac Pocock, 1810, while in a boat upon the Thames. Between 996 and 1001 a *Gemot* was held at Cookham, which was attended by a large assemblage of thanes from Wessex and Mercia.

The Thames is here crossed by a bridge of wood. Cookham is a Rly. Stat. on the branch from Maidenhead to Wycombe.

In making the "New Cut," for the convenience of navigation, at *Sashes*, below Cookham, about 1830, a number of Roman swords and javelin-heads were found, mingled with skeletons.

A pleasant by-road leads hence to Maidenhead, crossing Battle Mead, so called from a skirmish in the Civil Wars.

Cookham Lock. Falls 4 ft.

32 m. l. *Hedsor* (Lord Boston), a fine undulating park, with grassy oak-crowned knolls (on one of which is a sham castle), beautiful views, and woods sloping down to the river. The house was built, 1778, by William 1st Lord Boston, formerly equerry to Frederick Prince of Wales, from a plan inflicted on him by George III. It is a homely brown brick building. The *Ch.*, beautifully situated on the ridge of the hill, contains monuments of the Hyndes and Parkers; and the churchyard that of Nath. Hooke, author of the 'Roman History.' Very near the ch., in the park, through which the public have a right of way, are 2 magnificent old yew-trees. Hedsor, though beautiful, is the least interesting of the three places which meet at the cross-roads called *Nobleman's Corner*.

[Behind Hedsor Park, by which it is separated from the river, and beyond the Maidenhead road, is the beautiful park of *Dropmore* (Lady Grenville), part of a wild common enclosed by Lord Grenville, and richly diversified with heather and rhododendrons. The house was built by the late Lord Grenville, Prime Minister of George III., who lowered a hill in front of it considerably, so as to let in a view of Windsor Castle. It contains a fine library. Near the house is a beautiful

Italian garden, with straight walks and flowers. The collection of pines is perhaps unequalled, and occupies a large extent of ground; noble avenues of cedar and deodar; among them is an *Araucaria Imbricata*, 40 ft. high, the largest and finest not only in England but in Europe. Among the curiosities of Dropmore are—an oak said to have been planted by Elizabeth as princess; an oak from the celebrated tree at Boscobel, with an inscription to proclaim that it was not preserved in honour of the escape of King Charles, but of the restoration of the monarchy; and an arbour formed by one of the stone alcoves of old London Bridge. *The grounds are shown on application at the lodge, or to the head gardener, Mr. Frost, every day except Sunday.]*

34 m. rt. *Formosa* (Sir George Young, Bart.).

34 m. l. *Cliefden* (Duchess of Sutherland), to which "the river here owes its chief loveliness; and whether we view the valley of the Thames from it, or float leisurely along the stream and regard it as the principal object, we shall alike find enough to delight the eye and kindle the imagination. The towing path lies along the Berkshire side of the river, and Cliefden, which is on the opposite side, is a magnificent object from it; but the rambler should by all means here take a boat,—and there are two or three places near Maidenhead at which one can be hired,—and row gently along, if he would see this part in all its varied beauty. Cliefden runs along the summit of a lofty ridge which overhangs the river. The outline of this ridge is broken in the most agreeable way; the steep bank is clothed with luxuriant foliage, forming a hanging wood of great beauty, on parts bare, so as to increase the gracefulness of the foliage by the contrast; and the *whole bank has run into easy flow-*

ing curves at the bidding of the noble stream which washes its base. A few islands deck this part of the river, and occasionally little tongues of land run out into it, or a tree overhangs it, helping to give vigour to the foreground of the rich landscape."

These exquisite woods abound in magnificent primeval yew-trees, which hang from the chalk cliffs, their twisted roots exposed to the air, and cling and cluster round the winding walks and steep narrow staircases which lead in every direction to the heights above. The wild clematis hangs in luxuriant wreaths from the tops of the highest trees, and in their shade the *Atropa Belladonna* and other rare plants grow luxuriantly. In the cliff are many small caves, once inhabited by robbers, in one of which a worthless tradition tells that the Princess Elizabeth took refuge from Mary. Near the water-side a spring rises in a rocky basin and falls into the river, near which the Duke of Buckingham built a picturesque cottage for the benefit of visitors. The views from the summit are beautiful, "unequalled along the Thames, except by that from the north terrace of Windsor."

Evelyn speaks of Cliefden as "the stupendous natural rock, wood, and prospect, of the Duke of Buckingham." This was George Villiers, the favourite of Charles II., who built the original house. When he had killed the Earl of Shrewsbury in a duel, the Countess holding his horse disguised as a page, he fled hither with her to—

"Cliefden's proud alcove,
The bower of wanton Shrewsbury and love."

Horace Walpole says of him, "When this extraordinary man, with the figure and genius of Alcibiades, could equally charm the Presbyterian Fairfax and the dissolute Charles; when he alike ridiculed that witty king and his solemn chap-

cellor; when he plotted the ruin of his country with a cabal of bad ministers, or, equally unprincipled, supported its cause with bad patriots, one laments that such a man should have been devoid of every virtue." The portrait of the Duke has been drawn by four masterly hands; Burnet has hewn it with a rough chisel; Count Hamilton touched it with a delicacy that finishes while it seems to sketch; Dryden caught the living likeness; Pope completed the historical resemblance. His house, designed by *Archer* (Walpole's 'Groomporter of Architecture'), was much improved and adorned by the Earl of Orkney. It was of red brick, with stone dressings, and had sweeping colonnades and square wings, with a noble terrace 433 ft. long. It was burnt, May 20, 1795, through the carelessness of a maid reading a novel and letting her candle catch the curtains, and then falling down in a fit till the fire had gained head. In 1830 it was rebuilt by Sir G. Warrender of Lochend, after which it was purchased by the Duke of Sutherland, and again rebuilt by him, after a second conflagration, from a design by *Barry*.

The present magnificent house rises from a wide lawn on the heights, raised on a broad terrace. Though very simple, it is exceedingly imposing. The centre is a revival of Inigo Jones's design for old Somerset House. A huge inscription commemorates its second resurrection from the flames, in 1849, under the auspices of its present owners.

Frederick Prince of Wales, father of George III., resided here for a short time, during which the first performance of Thomson's masque of 'Alfred' took place in his presence; and the famous national air of 'Rule Britannia,' composed by Dr. Arne, was played for the first time on August 1st, 1740.

Visitors may gain admittance to the grounds and gardens of Cliefden, when the family are away, on application to Mr. Fleming, the head gardener; the house may be seen by a written order from Mr. Jackson, the Duke's agent.

36 m. 1. *Taplow Court* (C. P. Grenfell, Esq.), a picturesque modern turreted house, in beautiful grounds, overhanging the river. This was formerly the seat of the Earl of Orkney, distinguished in the wars of the Duke of Marlborough. The staircase was built in imitation of the Norm. cathedral of Kirkwall!

36 m. *Boulter's Lock*. Falls 6 ft.

rt. 37 m. MAIDENHEAD. (*Inns: Bear; Orkney Arms, near the bridge.*) A small market town of one street, without any object of interest, though the celebrated Mr. Gorham, afterwards of Brampton-Speke, once a curate here, has filled a volume with its history. The name is said to have had its origin in the head of one of the eleven thousand virgins preserved here (commemorated by a window in the modern chapel); but as it was formerly Maidenhythe, it is more probably derived from a great wharf for timber which existed here in Saxon times. James I., when hunting one day, rode on before his hounds to search for luncheon, and came to the inn at Maidenhead, but the landlord lamented that he had nothing left in his house, for the Vicar of Bray and his curate were upstairs, and had ordered all that there was, but perhaps they would allow him to join them. King James went upstairs and asked permission, which was glumly given by the vicar, but cordially by the curate. All dinner-time the king told so many stories that he made them roar with laughter. At last came the bill, when the king, searching his empty pockets, protested that he had left his purse behind him, and could not pay; upon which the vicar angrily

protested that he would not pay for him, but the curate expressed his pleasure in being able to make some return for the amusement he had given them. The bill paid, they all went out upon the balcony, when the huntsmen, riding into the town and seeing the king, went down upon one knee in the street, as was then the custom. The vicar, overwhelmed with confusion, flung himself at the king's feet and implored forgiveness; to which the king replied, "I shall not turn you out of your living, and you shall always remain Vicar of Bray, but I shall make the curate a Canon of Windsor, whence he will be able to look down both upon you and your vicarage."

Here, July 16, 1647, Charles I., after several years' separation, was allowed to meet his three children at the Greyhound Inn. The town

was strewn with flowers and decked with green boughs. They dined, and drove to Caversham, where apartments were prepared at the expense of the Parliament, in which they passed 2 days together.

Maidenhead Thicket, which lies to the W. of the town, had formerly so bad a repute, that in the reign of Elizabeth the Vicar of Hurley, who served the cure of Maidenhead, was allowed an extra salary to atone for the danger of passing it. Maidenhead was the scene of a skirmish in the time of Richard II., when Henry IV. had great difficulty in crossing the bridge, which was held by the Duke of Surrey.

The neighbouring modern Ch. of *Boyne Hill* is worthy of notice for the sake of its glass, carvings, and reminiscences of religious controversies.

SECTION II.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

INTRODUCTION.

	Page		Page
Boundaries	87	History	88
Rivers	87	Antiquities	89
Hills	87	Churches, &c.	90
Geology	88	Views	90
Agricultural Produce	88	Country Seats	91
Manufactures	88	Skeleton Tour	91

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE is said by Camden to derive its name from the Saxon "buchen," beech-trees, which, more than any other trees, clothe the sides of its chalk hills. But Lysons believes the origin of the name to be from "boch," a charter, Boch-ing-ham being "the town of the charter-meadow." The extreme length of the county is 53 m. and its extreme breadth 27 m. It is bounded on the N. and N.W. by Northamptonshire; on the W. by Oxfordshire; on the S. by Berkshire; and on the E. by Bedfordshire, Herts, and Middlesex.

The principal rivers are :—1. the Thames, which divides Bucks from Berks during a course of 28 m., from Henley to Eton and Datchet; 2. the Colne, which divides Bucks from Middlesex for 24 m.; 3. the Ouse, which first touches the county at Turweston, near Brackley, and, dividing it for some miles from Northamptonshire, afterwards flows, first E. and then N.E., past Buckingham and Newport-Pagnel to Olney, a few miles below which it quits the county, after a sinuous course of 43 m.; 4. the Thame, which rises near Stewkley and flows S.W., a course of 28 m., to Thame. Besides these, are the Ousel—remarkable for its fine pike, perch, and bream—which unites several small streams on the N. of the Chilterns, and flows N. 25 m. to join Ouse at Newport-Pagnel; the Tove, which forms a boundary between Bucks and Northampton from Grafton-Regis to its junction with the Ouse near Stony Stratford; the Mease, or Mise, which rises at Missenden, and, passing through the Chalfonts to Denham, falls into the Colne; and the Wick, which rises at West Wycombe and joins the Thames near Hedsor.

Bucks is intersected by the Chiltern Hills, which enter the county from Oxfordshire, and, crossing it to the N.E., run into Bedfordshire near Dunstable. Their highest point, near Wendover, is 905 ft. Muzzle Hill, near Brill, is 744 ft., and Bow Brickhill, near Fenny Stratford, 683 ft. The name is said by Camden to be derived from the Saxon word "cylt," or "chilt," signifying chalk. They were all once so covered with beech-woods as to be impassable, till Leofstan, abbot of St.

Albans, cut some of them down because of the shelter they afforded to thieves—whence the proverb, "Here if you beat a bush it's odds you'd start a thief." It was to put down the banditti who abounded in these hills, and to protect the inhabitants, that the "Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds" was first appointed. The duties have long since ceased, but the nominal office is retained in the gift of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and is given to members of the House of Commons who wish to resign their seats, as they are not permitted to do so except by the acceptance of an office, which, being held as one of honour and profit under the Crown, vacates the seat. The W. part of the Chilterns was occupied by the forest of Bernwood, which was disforested by James I. The heights above Great Kimble are still covered with box-trees, which here appear to be indigenous.

Five different geological formations traverse the county from N.E. to S.W. 1. The S.E., between the Thames and Colne, is occupied by plastic clay. 2. Succeeding to this is the chalk, forming the range of the Chiltern Hills. 3. The Tetsworth clay, forming the fertile soil of the Vale of Aylesbury. 4. The limestone, known as Aylesbury stone. 5. The oolite formations, which occupy the N. of the county.

Bucks is chiefly occupied by pasture-lands. It contains 150,000 acres of meadows and pastures, and is said to feed 20,000 milch cows. Ducks are one great article of produce. It is said that 4000*l.* worth are annually sent to London from Aylesbury alone, and 20,000*l.* worth from the whole county. Fuller mentions that the "biggest-bodied sheep in England" were bred in his time in the Vale of Aylesbury, where a single field at Quarrendon let for 800*l.* (at least 8000*l.* of our money). This is still the most fertile part of the county. "Buckinghamshire bread and beef" has long been a proverb.

The chief manufactures of Bucks are straw-plait and lace. Bone-lace (or thread lace) is made in almost all its northern villages, but particularly at Hanslope. Men as well as women are employed in this manufacture, especially when other work fails them. Beechwood chairs are made in several of the small towns under the Chilterns.

This county returns 3 members to Parliament. Aylesbury is the chief place of election; the polling-places are Aylesbury, Beaconsfield, Buckingham, and Newport-Pagnel.

The early history of Bucks abounds in legends, including the battle of Great Kimble, in which the two sons of Cymbeline were killed; the great battle of Chearsley, in which Cynric and Cerdric fought against the Britons; and the battle of Bledlow ("the bloody hill"), when the great White Leaf Cross was cut upon the side of the chalk hills to commemorate the Saxon victory over the Danes. Since these early days many great men have illustrated the history of the county. Edward the Elder built a fortress at Buckingham, and Edward the Confessor had a palace at Brill, where Henry I. and Henry II. afterwards held courts in the palace which later belonged to Richard Earl of Cornwall. Edward the Black Prince is said to *have given a name to Princes-Rishorough*, and to have built a palace *there*. *The shrine of Sir John Shorne at North Marston was long*

celebrated as an object of pilgrimage. It was at Fenny Stratford that Richard Duke of Gloucester seized the unhappy Edward V. Amersham and Wooburn bore a bloody witness to the fidelity of Protestants to their faith. From the ancient palace of Edmund Earl of Cornwall, at Asheridge, Elizabeth Tudor, as princess, was carried off to the Tower. There also she must have imbibed that love of Buckinghamshire beef which induced her, when she came to the throne, to establish Creslow Pastures as the royal feeding-grounds, from which time to that of Charles II. the Christ Meadow and the Heaven Meadow, which had belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, fattened cattle for the royal table. The old manor-house at Checquers was the prison of Lady Mary Grey. At Drayton Beauchamp Hooker lived as rector, "possessing his soul in patience and peace." Gayhurst was remarkable as the home of Sir Everard Digby, the conspirator of the Gunpowder Plot, and afterwards of his more illustrious son Sir Kenelm. At Horton, Milton passed five of his early years, and wrote the 'Allegro' and 'Penseroso,' 'Comus,' 'Lycidas,' and 'The Arcades;' and to Chalfont St. Giles he retired during the plague of London, and there he completed his 'Paradise Lost' and commenced his 'Paradise Regained.' At Great Hampden lived John Hampden; thence he went forth to death; and there he is buried. Boarstall Tower, a constantly disputed position in the civil wars, was taken and retaken in a succession of sieges. Dinton, still held by tenure of Oliver Cromwell's Naseby sword, was the home and hiding-place of Simon Mayne the regicide; and there, in a cave, dwelt the mysterious Dinton Hermit, who was believed to have been the executioner of the king. Penn, the great philanthropist, died at Rushcombe, and is buried in the humble Quakers' burial-ground at Jordans. Edmund Waller lived at Hall Barns, near Beaconsfield, where he is buried in the churchyard. Lady Rachel Russell rests in the church of Chenies, amid the marble monuments of a long line of her house. Edmund Burke lived at Gregories, and is buried in Beaconsfield church. Stoke Poges was the home of Gray; and its churchyard, the scene of his most beautiful poem, contains his grave. Cowper lived and wrote beside the Ouse at Olney, which he has immortalized in his poems. Medmenham was rendered notorious by the vices of the last century; Hartwell illustrious as the home of the exiled royal family of France; and Stowe, the resort of authors, poets, and statesmen, still bears melancholy witness to the magnificence and fall of a great family.

Bucks is almost destitute of *Antiquities*. Several ancient British and Roman roads crossed the county; of these, the Watling Street coincides with the road between Brickhill and Stony Stratford; the Ikeneld Street ran along the edge of the Chiltern range; and the Akeman Street also crossed the county, but its direction is uncertain. The turnpike road from Aylesbury to Bicester is supposed to be on the site of the road from Alchester to Londinium. There are several tumuli in the county; some have not been opened, but, of those which have been searched, some have been rich in relics. An ancient camp remains near Ellesborough, called Kimble Castle; and the foss and bank of a

British camp are still to be seen in good preservation at Cholesbury; but the most remarkable early memorial is the White Leaf Cross, cut in the hill above Princes-Risborough, of which the perpendicular part is 100 ft. long, the transverse 70, supported on a triangle.

No remains of feudal *Castles* exist, except the earthworks of Lavenham, Whitchurch, Castlethorpe, Wolverton, Weston Turville, Hanslope, and Risborough.

The *Monastic Remains* are very small. Nutley is still exceedingly picturesque, partly turned into a farmhouse. The remnant of Medmenham, in a lovely situation close to the Thames, has been much added to in modern times. Part of the domestic buildings of Burnham Abbey remain, now used as a barn. Of Bradwell and Missenden only the most insignificant fragments are left.

Several ancient *Mansions* still exist: the picturesque gatehouse at Boarstall; Creslow, with its curious manor-house and desecrated chapel; Liscombe House, with its chapel of the 13th centy.; Dinton Hall, built by Archbishop Warham; the Elizabethan manor-house at Gayhurst; and Chequers, rich in old pictures and historical relics.

Of the *Churches* two are Norman, and have long been supposed to be Saxon, viz., *Stewkley*, which is almost unique, and *Upton*, which is curious. There are also Norman doorways remaining in the churches of Hitchendon, Stanton-Barry, Water-Stratford, and Dinton. Of later churches, *Chetwode*, an old conventual church of 1244, contains some of the finest ancient stained glass in the kingdom; and Hillesden, 1493, is a good specimen of Perp. Wing has some remarkable points; and Aylesbury, Newport-Pagnel, and High-Wycombe are fine large churches. Eton chapel is a beautiful specimen of late Perp.

There are more than 70 ancient circular *Fountains* in Bucks, among the finest of which may be mentioned those at Aylesbury, Maidsmorton, Hitchendon, and Leckhampstead. In North Crawley Church is a fine Gothic *Roodloft*. Of ancient *Tombs*, those at Ashendon, Clifton Reynes, and Hitchendon are of crusaders; those of the Montforts and Wellesburnes at the latter place being especially interesting. At Ivinghoe is the curious effigy known as Grandfather Greybeard, believed to be Peter de Chaceport, 1254; at Haversham is the fine Gothic tomb of Lady Clinton, 1422; at Thornton that of the founder, John Barton, 1443. Chenies is remarkable for containing a complete series of tombs of the house of Russell, while the number of monuments of the Dormers scattered over the county present another curious family portrait-gallery. The county is rich in *Brasses*. At Drayton-Beauchamp are 2 of the Cheyne family, 1375, 1450; at Denham that of Agnes Jordan, last abbess of Syon; at Asheridge Sir John Swynshide, 1390; at Thornton Robert Ingleton, his wives and granddaughter, 1472; at Clifton-Reynes Sir John Reynes, 1428; at Stoke Poges Sir William Molins, 1425.

The finest *Views* in the county are those from Brill, over Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire; from Ellesborough hill; and from Penn Beacon, which commands a view over 8 different counties. The Glyde of Bledlow is a remarkable and beautiful natural chasm.

The *Country Seats* along the Buckinghamshire bank of the Thames are celebrated for their beauty; especially Cliefden, for its hanging-woods and extensive views, and Hedsor, for its wild undulating park. Equally beautiful is the park of Asheridge, on the high eastern boundary of the county overhanging Herts. Other country-houses of interest are Chequers and Hampden, nestling among the beechwoods of the Chilterns, and Hartwell, Winchendon, and Doddershall Hall, near Aylesbury. The *Gardens* of Dropmore are justly celebrated for their *Pinetum*, one of the finest in England; those at Stowe are remarkable for their temples and statues, now rapidly falling into decay. There are some good *Pictures* at Langley Park and Asheridge; Liscombe House contains interesting portraits; Chequers an invaluable collection of the family and friends of Oliver Cromwell; and Claydon many family portraits of historical interest.

The *Artist* will find the best subjects for his pencil along the banks of the Thames or among the wooded valleys of the Chilterns. The old house at Chenies, Boarstall Tower, Creslow Manor-house, and the ruins of Nutley Abbey, are picturesque.

The only rare plant indigenous in Bucks is “*Dentaria bulbifera*,” or “Bulb-bearing Coralwort.”

SKELETON TOUR,

Embracing the principal objects in Bucks.

SLOUGH.—Upton Church, Eton Chapel and School. By Stoke Poges and Burnham Beeches to

MAIDENHEAD.—By Cliefden, Dropmore, and Hedsor, to

GREAT MARLOW.—Excursion to Medmenham Abbey and Hambleton Church.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—Church; Mausoleum at West Wycombe.

BEACONSFIELD.—Church; Hall Barns; Gregories. By Jordans, Chalfont St. Giles, and Chenies, to

AMERSHAM.—Church; Shardeloes.

GREAT MISSENDEN.—Abbey. Excursion to Great Hampden, Risborough, Bledlow, Great Kimble, the Beacon Hill, Chequers.

WENDOVER.—Excursion to Drayton Beauchamp.

AYLESBURY.—Church; Quarrendon Chapel (in ruins). 1. Excursion to Hartwell, Dynton, Winchenden, Nutley Abbey, Brill, Boarstall. 2. Excursion to Creslow Pastures, North Marston, and Doddershall House. By rail to

LEIGHTON BUZZARD STAT.—Excursion to Stewkley, Liscombe. Rail to

WOLVERTON STAT.—Excursion to Great Linford, Gayhurst, Newport Pagnel, Olney, Weston Underwood, North Crawley, Milton Keynes. Rail to

BUCKINGHAM.—Maidsmorton, Stowe (no longer shown). Excursion to Chetwode and Hillesden.

ROUTES.

**. The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
9 Langley to Maidenhead, by Slough and Eton. Great Western Railway	92	<i>Latimers</i>], <i>Wendover</i> , <i>Aylesbury</i> , <i>Winslow</i> , and <i>Buckingham</i>	107
10 London to <i>High Wycombe</i> , by <i>Uxbridge</i> and <i>Beaconsfield</i> : part of the old road from London to Oxford and Birmingham	101	12 Aylesbury to Bicester	123
London to Brackley, by <i>Chalfont</i> , <i>Amersham</i> [<i>Chenies</i> ,		13 Tring to Roade. London and Birmingham Railway	125
		14 Bletchley to Bicester, by <i>Whaddon Chase</i> and <i>Claydon</i> . Branch Railway from Bletchley to Oxford	132

ROUTE 9.

LANGLEY TO MAIDENHEAD, BY SLOUGH AND ETON. — GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

14 m. Just before crossing the Colne the line enters Bucks.

rt. 1 m. *Iver*. The ch. contains the monuments of Sir George and Sir Edward Salter, carvers to Charles I., with the effigy of Lady Mary, wife to the latter, rising from her coffin in her shroud.

Ritching's Lodge was the residence of Lord Bathurst, who collected hither all the clever men of his time. From him it passed, in 1739, to the Earl of Hertford, to whom Pope dedicated his 'Epistle on the Use and Abuse of Riches.' Lady Hertford, the Eusebia of Dr. Watts, and the Cleora of Mrs. Rowe, was in the habit of assembling all the poets of the day at her house. Shenstone flattered her in his poem on 'Rural Elegance,' and Thomson dedicated to her his poem of 'Spring,' but afterwards mortally offended her by preferring a carouse with Lord Hertford to listening to her poems. She gives an exaggerated description of the place in a letter to Lady *Pomfret*: "We have just taken a

house by Colnbrook. It belongs to my Lord Bathurst, and is what Mr. Pope calls in his letters 'extravagante bergerie.' The environs perfectly answer that title, and come nearer to my idea of a scene in Arcadia than any place I ever saw. The house is old, but convenient; and when you are got within the little paddock it stands in, you would believe yourself 100 miles from London. This paddock is a mile and a half round, which is laid out in the manner of a French park, interspersed with woods and lawns. There is a canal in it about 1200 yds. long and proportionably broad, which has a stream constantly running through it, and is deep enough to carry a pleasure boat. It is well stocked with carp and tench, and at its upper end is a greenhouse containing a good collection of orange, myrtle, geranium, and oleander trees.

"In one of the woods there is a cave, which, though little more than a rude heap of stones, has charms for me. A spring gushes out at the back of it, which, falling into a basin, whose brim it overflows, passes along a channel in the pavement, where it loses itself. The entrance to this recess is overhung

with periwinkle, and its top shaded with beeches, large elms, and birch.

"On the spot where the greenhouse stands there was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. Leonard, who was certainly esteemed a tutelar saint of Windsor Forest and its purlieus. We have no relics of the saint but an old covered bench, with many remains of the wit of Lord Bathurst's visitors, who inscribed verses upon it. Here is the writing of Addison, Pope, Prior, Congreve, Gay, and, what he esteemed no less, of several fine ladies.

"There is one walk which I am extremely partial to, and which is rightly called the Abbey Walk, since it is composed of prodigiously high beech-trees that form an arch through the whole length, exactly resembling a cloister."

1. 2 m. S. is Colnbrook, supposed to be the Ad Pontes of Antoninus. It is separated from Middlesex by the Colne, whence its name, though, according to the ballad 'Thomas of Reading,' it derives its name from Thomas Cole the Reading clothier, who was murdered by the landlord at the inn here, on his way to London.,

"Part of the town of Colnbrook is in the parish of Horton, which extends in the opposite direction to the vicinity of Windsor. The village of Horton is 1 m. distant, between it and the Wraybury Stat. on the London and South-Western Rly. It has no appearance of a continuous street; but a great tree in the centre of the space where 3 roads meet suggests that there may be more habitations about the spot than are at first visible; and, on looking down one of the roads, the suggestion is confirmed by the sight of a church-tower, a few paces to the left, all but hidden by the intervening foliage. On making towards this church one finds it to be a small but very ancient edifice, probably of the 13th or 14th centy.,

standing back from the road in a cemetery, in the front of which, and close to the road, are two extremely old yew-trees. The tower, which is square, is picturesquely covered with ivy; the walls are strong, and chequered with flints and brickwork; and the entrance from the cemetery is by a low porch. The stranger would see no old inscriptions or tombstones in the cemetery—nothing old in it but the yew-trees; but within the ch. he would find both stone and woodwork of sufficient antiquity. There is an old Norm. arch within the main porch; there is a nave with 2 aisles and a chancel; between the nave and the aisles are short circular columns supporting arches; the pulpit and the pews look as if they had served already for a centy. or two of rural English Sundays. In one of these pews, or on the spot occupied by one of them, Milton had worshipped regularly with others of his family, while resident in the adjoining village, from the 24th to the 30th yr. of his age. Milton's mother is buried here, and a plain blue stone on the chancel floor has the record: 'Heare lyeth the body of Sara Milton, the wife of John Milton, who died the 3rd of April, 1637.'

"With the exception of the ch., Horton, as it was known to Milton, is to be found in the roads, the paths, and the general aspect of the fields and vegetation, rather than in the actual houses now remaining. Around the village is a rich, teeming, verdurous flat, charming by its appearance of plenty, and by the goodly show of food along the fields and pastures, and in the nooks where the houses nestle. There are elms, alders, poplars, and cedars; there is no lack of shrubbery and hedging; and in spring the orchards are all abloom with pink and white for miles round. What strikes one most in walking about the neighbourhood is the canal-like abun-

dance and distribution of water. There are rivulets brimming through the meadows among rushes and water-plants; and by the very sides of the ways, in lieu of ditches, there are slow runnels, in which one can see the minnows swimming. On the whole, without taking into account the vicinity of other scenes of beauty and interest,—including nothing less than royal Windsor itself, the towers and battlements of which govern the whole landscape—Horton was, and might still be, a most pleasant place of rural retirement, either after London or Cambridge.

"There was a tradition that Milton's house was one which stood on the site of a new mansion, called Berkin Manor-house, near the ch., but on the opposite side of the road, with streams of water running through and along the grounds; and in the garden of this house there was shown, till the other day, the remnant of an apple-tree, under which, according to the innocent style of local legend about such things, Milton 'used to compose his poetry.' 90 yrs. ago a portion of Milton's house was still standing, and was known as the '*Poet's House*.' Its pigeon-house existed till within the last 50 yrs."—*Masson's Life of Milton*.

Hence he wrote to his friend Diodati, "You ask me of what I am thinking: as God shall help me, of immortality! But how shall I attain it? My wings are fledging, and I meditate a flight."

Here he wrote '*Comus*' (1634); '*Lycidas*' (1637); and the '*Arcades*,' which made part of a dramatic entertainment at Harefield; the '*Sonnet to the Nightingale*;' and probably the '*Allegro*' and '*Penseroso*.'

"The nightingale, which abounds at Horton to a remarkable degree, occurs both in '*Comus*' and the '*Allegro*;' and in the morning scene in the '*Allegro*' are some details which

might be claimed by Horton, as not so common in other localities; 'the towers and battlements,

Bosom'd high in tufted trees,'

are almost evidently Windsor Castle; and a characteristic morning sound at Horton to this day, we are told, is that of 'the hounds and horn' from Windsor Park when the royal huntsmen are out."—*Ibid*.

16 m. *Langley Marsh Stat.*, formerly called *Langley Maries*. The ch. is curious: part of the nave Norm., with the chancel and its chapel E. Dec., with a good square-headed Dec. door, and 2 good E. E. windows with tracery. The arms of the Kidderminster family, who built the tower 1649, are emblazoned on the manor-pew. Sir John K. founded a Divinity Library, which was discovered accidentally behind the wainscoting about 30 yrs. ago, and is now placed over the S. porch. The *Almshouses* built by him are picturesque.

1 m. N. is *Langley Park* (R. Harvey, Esq.), a fine house built 1740, by the Duke of Marlborough, who planted the gloomy fir-woods behind it, enclosing a large mere, and known as the *Black Park*. The house contains a fine collection of pictures, including St. Michael and Satan, *Luca Giordano*; Holy Family, *Carlo Maratti*; Holy Family with 4 saints, a very beautiful specimen of *Sebastian del Piombo*; a woman putting on her stocking, *Mieris*; views of Venice, *Canaletti*; landscape, *Wilson*; a lovely head of a child, and the celebrated full-length portrait of Mrs. Siddons as the Tragic Muse, *Sir Joshua Reynolds*.

1. from this part of the line is a fine view of Windsor Castle.

18 m. *Slough Junct. Stat.* [Hence there is a branch line 2½ m. into Windsor, which runs till within 1½ m. of the terminus on an embankment, whence a viaduct nearly 6000 ft. long carries it into the middle of

the town. The Thames is crossed by an arch of 187 ft. span, so as to allow vessels to pass in sail. Carriages and post-horses, which are excessively dear, are always ready at Slough Stat. There is no omnibus to Eton or Windsor.]

A delightful excursion may be made from Slough to Stoke, Farnham, Burnham Beeches, Dropmore, and Cliefden, rejoining the rail at Maidenhead.

1 m. distant, *Botham's Inn at Salt Hill*, on the Bath road, good and quiet. Near it is the tumulus, celebrated as the scene of *Eton Montem*. The *Queen's Hotel*, an immense establishment near the Stat., is now shut up. On the l. of the road from Slough to Windsor is the red-brick house where Sir William Herschel lived, and in the garden of which his great telescope was set up; here most of his discoveries were made, including that of the planet Uranus. The tube of the telescope alone remains on the spot.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Upton Old Ch.*, lately restored by *Benj. Ferrey*, is a small Norm. ch., with the tower between the nave and chancel; it has a fine Norm. N. door, with good carvings. There are some plain Norm. and some E. E. windows; the E. and W. windows are Perp. insertions. Here Sir W. Herschel is buried. The "ivy-mantled tower" has been thought to be that alluded to in *Gray's Elegy*.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *ETON (Inn: the Christopher)*, of which the beautiful chapel is conspicuous from far and near, rising above its massy elm-trees, and calls to mind *Gray's verses*:—

"Ye distant spires, ye antique towers,
That crown the wat'ry glade,
Where grateful Science still adores
Her Henry's holy shade;
And ye, that from the stately brow
Of Windsor heights, th' expanse below,
Of grove, of lawn, of mead survey;
Whose turf, whose shade, whose flowers
among,
Wanders the hoary Thames along
His silver winding way."

Eton College, ever since its foundation, has held the first position amongst the public schools of England, and "an Eton man" is still always an honourable appellation; while those who visit this beautiful spot can understand the affection with which the place itself inspires those who are educated there.

The College of the Blessed Mary of Eton beside Windsor was founded 1441 by Henry VI., "when," says Fuller, "it was high time some school should be founded, considering how low grammar-learning then ran in the land." It had originally endowments for a provost, 10 "sad" priests, 4 lay clerks, 6 choristers, 25 poor grammar-scholars, and 25 poor men whose duty it was to pray for the king. It has now on the foundation a provost, 7 fellows, 3 conducts, 70 king's scholars, and 10 choristers. Besides these there are 600 or 700 scholars (Oppidans) not on the foundation. Attached to the foundation are several good scholarships at King's College, Cambridge (4 given annually); 2 scholarships at Merton College, Oxford; and 40 livings. Among distinguished provosts who have presided over Eton, have been William of Waynflete, the founder of Magdalen, afterwards Bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor, its second provost and first head master (who probably drew up the statutes, which are in imitation of those of William of Wykeham at Winchester, of which school he was head master before he came to Eton); William Westbury, head master and provost, by whose influence with the director of Jane Shore the college was spared from confiscation at the time when the provost and fellows were so poor that they were obliged to walk into Windsor to get a dinner from the dean and canons; Roger Lupton, who built the great tower and gateway to the cloisters, 1508-35; Sir Thos. Smith, Secretary-of-State, and

a well-known diplomatist of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth; Sir H. Saville, tutor of Queen Elizabeth, and one of the greatest scholars of her time, who was afterwards employed by James I. in the translation of the Bible, and who published St. Chrysostom while at Eton, and founded professorships of astronomy and geometry at Oxford; Thomas Murray, tutor and secretary to Prince Charles; Sir H. Wotton, the eminent statesman and ambassador of James I., beloved and praised by Isaak Walton, with whom he used to fish; Dr. Steward, Clerk of the Closet to Charles I., turned out by the Parliament; Francis Rouse, Speaker of the Barebones Parliament, who saved Eton from confiscation, and founded 3 scholarships; Rich. Monk, brother of the Duke of Albemarle and afterwards Bp. of Hereford; and Rd. Allestree, Canon of Christ Ch., who built the Upper School, and whose personal appearance was such that he was exhibited by Rochester to Charles II. at York House as the ugliest man in England.

Among boys on the foundation, afterwards illustrious, were John Hales, called the "ever-memorable" (who was deprived of his fellowship here for refusing to take the oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth, and is buried in the churchyard); Bp. Pearson, Bp. Fleetwood, Earl Camden, Dean Stanhope, Sir Robert Walpole, and Sir William Draper.

Among those not on the foundation were Edmund Waller, Harley Earl of Oxford, Lord Bolingbroke, Great Earl of Chatham, Lord Lyttelton, Gray, Horace Walpole, West, Wyndham, Fox, Canning, Fielding, Adml. Lord Howe, Lord Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, Hallam, and the present Archbishop of Canterbury.

The old part of the College, begun 1441, finished 1523, is built principally of red brick with stone dressings and chimneys, elaborately

ornamented. It consists of 2 quadrangles: the first of these contains on the E. the picturesque dark-red tower now containing the clock, which resembles those of St. James's and Hampton Court; on the N. the *Lower School*, on the walls of which the names of many celebrated members may be seen, with the old dormitory known as the "*Long Chamber*" above it, now for the most part divided into separate compartments; on the W. the *Upper School*, supported on an arcade by *Sir Christopher Wren*; on the S. the *Chapel*. In the centre is a bronze statue by *Bird*, placed by Provost Godolphin to the "never-fading memory" of Henry VI. The second and smaller quadrangle, called the *Green Yard*, which is surrounded by a cloister, contains the entrance of the hall and the lodgings of the provost and fellows.

The *Hall* (for the scholars on the foundation) is a very curious apartment, with a dais for the dignitaries, and 3 fireplaces, discovered behind the panelling at its restoration; that at the end is unique, as being behind the dais, and is coeval with the foundation. The stained window above, by *Hardman*, represents scenes in the life of Henry VI. The panelling is richly decorated with the arms of the provosts and benefactors. Among the portraits is a fine one of Sir R. Walpole. S. of this is the *Library*, containing a large number of Oriental MSS., collected by Mr. Pote at Patna; a prayerbook of Queen Mary; the Mazarene Bible; and a copy of the 'Nibelungenlied,' one of the only two of the kind ever printed, presented by the King of Prussia. The *Provost's Lodgings* contain portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Sir T. Smith, Sir T. Saville by *Corn. Jansen*, Sir H. Wotton, and an original portrait of Jane Shore in a necklace (and nothing else), said to have been given by her to Provost Bost, who was

her confessor. The *Election Hall* has some curious stained windows, representing different forms of torture, including the pressing to death, which was practised as a punishment for refusing to plead, as late as George III. The *Election Chamber* contains portraits of Henry V., VI., VII., commonly believed to be originals, and the portraits presented to Dr. Keate by his scholars, and given by his widow to the College. In other rooms are other portraits of scholars presented to Drs. Bernard, Foster, Davis, Heath, and Goodall.

The *New Buildings*, in the Tudor style, include dormitories and the *Boys' Library*, which contains nearly 6000 volumes, and a large collection of stuffed birds presented by Dr. Thackeray, late Provost of King's; also portraits of Henry VI., an early copy; Henry VII., an original; Porson, by *Newenham*; a cast of the Dying Gladiator; and a copy, in marble, of the Apollo Belvidere.

The *Chapel*, 175 ft. in length, in outline much resembles King's College Chapel at Cambridge, and is a very fine specimen of late Perp. The interior has been beautifully restored, 1848-60, and fitted up with dark oak stalls and seats. The E. window—a present from the boys—has been filled with stained glass by *Willement*. Many other windows are the gift of the Rev. T. Wilder.

On the l. is the little chantry of Provost Lupton (temp. Henry VII.), containing his tomb. His rebus, a tan with the word "Lup" above it, is carved over the door. Many curious mural paintings, in oil, on the legends of the Virgin, were discovered upon the walls in restoring the chapel. They were in a very high style of art, probably the work of one of the many Flemish painters in England during the reign of Henry VII., VIII. The upper row, smaller than the others, have with one exception been carefully erased;

[B. B. & O.]

the lower row are defended by a canvas covering, but are entirely hidden under the new wainscoting. When the Prince Consort saw them, he strongly recommended that the backs of the seats should be made to open on hinges to show them to lovers of art, but this, has not been done. A set of outline drawings of the whole, by *Essex*, is in the possession of the present provost.

Among the celebrated persons buried here are Ld. Grey de Wilton, henchman to Henry VIII.; Longland, Bp. of Lincoln, his confessor; Provost Francis Rouse, a learned Puritan writer, 1658; Dr. Allestree, who built the Upper School and cloisters, 1680; Nathaniel Ingelo, author of '*Bentivoglio and Urania*'; and Sir H. Wotton, with the extraordinary epitaph—

"Hic jacet hujus sententiæ primus auctor,—
Disputandi pruritus sit ecclesiarum scabies,"

"Nomen alias quære."

There is also a fine tomb of Dr. Murray, 13th provost, with his effigy coloured after life. In the ante-chapel is a statue of the founder, by *Bacon*, 1786, placed there by Edw. Besom, one of the fellows, at a cost of 700l.

The *Graveyard* contains the tomb of the Ever-Memorable Hales, lately restored by the present provost. Close by is *Baldwin's* or *Barne's Pool Bridge*, connecting the town with the precincts of the College—a relic of the 13th centy., when it marked the limits of the town in that direction.

A postern gate, on the l. of the college, leads into the *Playing Fields*, broad green meadows, extending along the banks of the river and shaded by noble elm-trees. A small stream known as *Chalvey Brook* intersects them, whose water, considered beneficial to the eyes, has its source in Queen Anne's well, situated in a pretty grove of trees

near the village of Chalvey, whence Queen Anne and afterwards Queen Charlotte had the water carried up to the Castle in buckets. The view of Windsor Castle from the meadows is magnificent. The river is constantly covered with boats, and its vicinity to the College has given Etonians that excellence in swimming and rowing of which they are justly proud. Prizes are given to swimmers for distance, diving, and "headers."

From the head-mastership of Dr. Bernard (before which the procession was not military and took place annually on Feb. 2) to the abolition of the custom in 1846, Whit-Tuesday was triennially celebrated here by the *Eton Montem*, when the scholars, attired in a variety of fancy costumes, marched to Salt Hill, where contributions of "salt" were levied on each of the numerous spectators and visitors, who received in return a pass ticket, inscribed "Mos pro lege" or "Pro More et Monte." The so-called "salt" often amounted to more than 1000*l.* and once to 1300*l.*, so that, after the expenses of the day were paid, a large sum remained which was given to the captain of the school.

On June 4th, now the school "Speech-day," and on Election Saturday, the last in July (when candidates are elected to the Cambridge Scholarships), a procession of boats takes place in the evening from the *Brocas*, a large meadow above the bridge, to *Surley Hall*, 3 m. up the river.

[S.E. of Eton are several places of interest.

2 m. *Datchet* (Stat. of S.W. Rly.), the scene of Falstaff's miseries in the 'Merry Wives of Windsor.' "The muddy ditch at Datchet Mead, close by the Thames' side," into which he was thrown "glowing hot, like a horse-shoe, hissing hot," and, "having a kind of alacrity in sinking, had been drowned, but that the shore was

shelvy and shallow." 1 m. above Datchet, Isaak Walton used to fish "for a little samlet or skegger trout, and catch 20 or 40 of them at a standing." With him fished "that undervaluer of money, the late Provost of Eton College, Sir H. Wotton, a most dear lover and frequent practiser of the art of angling," who found that angling, "after tedious study, was a rest to his mind, a cheerer of his spirits, a diverter of sadness, a calmer of unquiet thoughts, a moderator of passions, a procurer of contentedness, and that it begat habits of peace and patience in those that professed and practised it." Wotton built a fishing-house here, where Walton spent some days with him every year. The painter Verrio afterwards built a summer-house on the site, and here Charles II. came to fish.

"Methinks I see our mighty monarch stand,
The pilant rod now trembling in his hand;

And see, he now doth up from Datchet
come,
Laden with spoils of slaughter'd gudgeons,
home." *Pope.*

Both are now destroyed, but the place is still well known to anglers from its fishing-house of *Black Pots*.

Near Datchet is *Ditton Park*; the house is on the site of an old manor of the Molinses and Hungerfords, which was burnt 1812. It was rebuilt in the next year by Elizabeth Duchess of Buccleugh. During the life of George Duke of Montagu it was celebrated for the witty and wise, who collected there.

"On the rt. of the road from Datchet to Wrybury, at about 1 m., is a farm-house called *King John's Hunting Lodge* (though really built some centuries later). It has a rude porch, primitive windows, and curious gables, all betokening the architecture of bygone times. In the inside are huge oaken timbers, low roofs, and grotesque carvings. 2 of the windows of the bed-rooms contain some stained glass of the

arms of a king of England at an early period. 2 enormous walnut-trees at the back of the house measure at 3 ft. from the ground 24 ft. in circumference. An underground passage has been traced for some distance from the house leading directly towards Windsor Castle. In this passage early specimens of English pottery have been found."—*Jesse's Favourite Haunts.*

5 m. *Wraybury*, formerly *Wyrdisbury*. A foot-path by the ch. leads down to the ferry for *Magna Charta Island*. (See *Handbook for Surrey*.) On the opposite bank of the river is *Runnymede*. *Anderwyke House* (S. Harcourt, Esq.) was once a Priory of Benedictine nuns, founded in honour of St. Mary Magdalen, by Sir Gilbert Montfichet, temp. Henry II. The Priory was afterwards given by Edward VI. to the celebrated statesman Sir Thomas Smith, Provost of Eton, who resided here. Of the monastic buildings only the *Hall* remains. There is an immense yew-tree measuring 28 ft. in girth at 3 ft. from the ground, beneath which, according to local tradition, Henry VIII. made an appointment with Anne Boleyn.]

rt. 2½ m., on the hill N. of Slough, is *Stoke Poges* (the spire is visible from the rly.). The picturesque ch. contains all styles from Norm. to Perp. In the chancel is a canopied tomb of one of the Molins family, and brasses to Sir William Molins, slain at the siege of Orleans, 1429, and Margaret and Eleanor, Ladies Molins. The manor came into this family from that of Poges by marriage about 1330. There is a sepulchral chapel, built by Sir Edward Hastings, Lord Loughborough. This *churchyard* is the undoubted scene of Gray's 'Elegy,' the poem which has rendered him immortal; the different points in the description—"the ivy-mantled tower," "the rugged elms," "the yew-trees' shade,"

"yon wood," "the heath,"—will be easily recognised. Gray was accustomed to spend his college vacations at Stoke, at the house of his aunt Mrs. Rogers; and in 1741 his mother and aunt Antrobus came to live here, in a house described by him as "a compact box of red brick, with sash windows," when Stoke became his home. Near the E. end of the ch. is a monument with an epitaph by him to Mary Antrobus and "Dorothy Gray, the careful, tender mother of many children, of whom one alone had the misfortune to survive her." The poet was afterwards himself buried in the same vault, as is recorded by a tablet on the outside wall of the chancel. In a field near is a stone monument to him by the late Mr. Penn.

Close to the churchyard, and within the grounds of Stoke Park, is the only remaining wing of the *Old Manor-house*, described by Gray in his 'Long Story':—

"In Britain's Isle, no matter where,
An ancient pile of building stands,
The Huntingdons and Hattons there
Employ'd the power of fairy hands
To raise the ceiling's fretted height,
Each panel in achievements clothing,
Rich windows that exclude the light,
And passages that lead to nothing."

A variety of illustrious personages inhabited the house in turn. Amicia de Stoke brought it to Robert Poges, whose granddaughter married Sir John Molins, from whom it descended to Hastings Earl of Huntingdon, who rebuilt it in the reign of Elizabeth, when there is a tradition that Sir Christopher Hatton lived here:—

"Full oft within the spacious walls,
When he had fifty winters o'er him,
The grave Lord Keeper led the brawls,
The seals and maces danced before him."

The fragment of the old house contains some portraits, china, and other curiosities, and is worth a visit. The estate was afterwards seized for debt, when James I. gave it to Chief Justice Coke, who

lived in retirement here, 1629-33. 3 days before his death his house was searched for seditious papers by the Secretary of State Windebank, on suspicion that he had advised with Hampden on his resistance to ship-money. His daughter married a brother of the Duke of Buckingham, who was created Baron Villiers of Stoke Poges. In 1647 Stoke was for a short time the prison of Charles I., when carried about by the army. It afterwards passed by purchase to William Penn of Pennsylvania. The modern house (Lord Taunton), built by Wyatt, 1789, contains a few very choice paintings. An original unfinished sketch by the hand of *Mich. Angelo*—of the Virgin, Child, and Angels—is of great rarity: *Perugino*, a *Pietà*: *Moroni*, a fine portrait: *F. Francia*, the Baptism of Christ: a fine *Paul Potter*, 2 *Claudes*, &c.: also a bust of Napoleon, by *Canova*; and the 4 Elements, Gany-mede, Venus, and bas-reliefs, by *Thorwaldsen*. Attached to the house are pleasant gardens, by *Repton* and *Broune*, adorned with varieties of pines and busts of eminent men. A column, 68 ft. high, is surmounted by a statue of Coke. The ch. stands almost in the park. The house in which the Grays lived, West End Cottage, now Stoke Court (A. Darby, Esq.), is still standing, though much enlarged, altered, and beautified. His room is still known, and a walnut-tree and summer-house, alluded to in one of his letters, are still existing.

In this parish is *Baylis*, or *Ballies*, the house of the polite Lord Chesterfield, an old brick mansion with an avenue, built by Dr. Godolphin, Provost of Eton, 1695.

rt. 2½ m. *Farnham-Royal*, an old manor of the Verdens, Furnivals, and Talbots, held by service of finding a glove for the king's right hand, and supporting it at his coronation. The ugly ch. contains the

monument of Eustace Mascall, clerk of the works to Wolsey at St. Frideswide. Bp. Chandler is buried here.

4 m. from Slough are *Burnham Beeches*, an unequalled fragment of forest scenery, commemorated by 1000 artists. Gray, writing to Horace Walpole, Sept. 1737, says, "I have at the distance of half a mile, through a green lane, a forest (the vulgar call it a common), all my own, at least as good as so, for I spy no human thing in it but myself. It is a little chaos of mountains and precipices: mountains it is true that do not ascend much above the clouds, nor are the declivities quite so amazing as Dover Cliff, but just such hills as people who love their necks as well as I may venture to climb, and crags that give the eye as much pleasure as if they were more dangerous; both vale and hill are covered with most venerable beeches and other reverend vegetables, that, like most other ancient people, are always dreaming out their old stories to the winds:—

"And as they bow their hoary tops relate,
In murmuring sounds, the dark decrees of
fate;
While visions, as poetic eyes avow,
Cling to each leaf and swarm on every
bough."

The beeches are very peculiar, and are all pollarded; there is a tradition that they were rendered so by Cromwell's soldiers. 1 m. from Burnham village are some small remains of *Burnham*, a mitred abbey, founded for Benedictines by Richard King of the Romans, 1265. The learned Jacob Bryant lived and died at Cippenham in this parish.

1. see the Thames, with Bray Ch. beyond, before reaching, on an embankment,

22½ m. MAIDENHEAD JUNCT. STAT., 1½ m. from Maidenhead town (see Route 8); rt. Burnham, 2½ m.; Burnham Beeches, 4 m.; Hedsor,

3½ m.; Dropmore, 3¾ m.; Woburn, 5 m.; Marlow, 6½ m.

On crossing the bridge over the Thames the line enters Berkshire. (See p. 28.)

ROUTE 10.

LONDON TO HIGH WYCOMBE, BY
UXBRIDGE AND BEACONSFIELD;
PART OF THE OLD ROAD FROM
LONDON TO OXFORD AND BIR-
MINGHAM.

(Uxbridge may be reached from London by Great Western Rly., and a branch-line diverging at West Drayton, whence trains reach Uxbridge in 10 min.)

14½ m. Leaving Uxbridge and crossing the Colne, the road enters Bucks.

17 m. rt. *Denham Place*, built by Sir Roger Hill, 1667, on the site of an old manor-house of the Peckhams, was the residence of Lucien and Joseph Buonaparte in 1836; it was also frequently visited by Captain Cook, the voyager (whose bill-hook remains here), and was the beloved "pastoral retreat" of Sir Humphrey Davy, who used to repair hither for fishing. The house, a large red brick edifice, with a bold projecting cornice, has a beautiful old chapel, which retains its ancient gilded seats, decorated with the dove bearing the olive-branch, the crest of Sir Roger

Hill, and a stained window richly emblazoned with coats-of-arms. Some of the rooms, which contain many quaint old pictures, and some fine tapestry of Jason and the Golden Fleece, have curious cornices, some of which are coloured, that of the drawing-room representing hawking, fishing, stag-hunting, and fox-hunting, on its 4 sides. In a secret room, now destroyed, Sir Roger Hill was supposed, by local tradition, to have secreted the body of a footman whom he is said to have murdered.

Denham Ch. contains an altar-tomb, with effigies, of Sir Edmund Peckham and his lady (1564, 70), and the monuments of his son Sir Robert Peckham, who died at Rome 1569, and is buried there in the ch. of St. Gregory, but whose heart is deposited here, and of Sir Roger Hill, the founder of Denham Place, with his bust, 1729. Here are also some fine brasses, including that of Agnes, last Abbess of Syon.

1½ m. rt., approached by a magnificent lime avenue more than ½ m. long, is *Denham Court* (D. Lambert, Esq.), where Dryden visited Sir Wm. Bowyer, and where he translated the 1st Georgic and part of the last Æneid. Hence he wrote, "Nature has conspired with art to make the garden one of the most delicious spots in England. It contains not above 5 acres, just the compass of Alcinous' garden, but Virgil says, *Laudato ingentia rura exiguum colito.*" Here Charles II. was concealed in various ways by Lady Bowyer, and 4 curious panel pictures still preserved in the house commemorate the event. The 1st represents him dressed as a scullion in the kitchen; the 2nd, hidden among the rushes of the moat; the 3rd, the turkey, bleeding at the head, which she hung over the panel behind which he was concealed, to keep off the bloodhound which was tracking him; the 4th is a fine portrait of Lady Bowyer herself.

The house has been much modernised, but retains its ancient moat.

18 m. rt. the road branches off by Amersham and Aylesbury to Buckingham. (See Rte. 11.)

1. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Fulmer*, whose ch. contains the tomb of its founder Sir Marmaduke Dayrell, 1610, in gilt armour, and his lady, with an inscription stating that he was servant to Queen Elizabeth in her wars by sea and land, and conferrer to King James I. and King Charles I. Opposite the tomb hangs his helmet. Fulmer is a remarkably pretty village which owes its prosperity to its present squire, J. Kaye, Esq.

20 m. *Gerard's* or *Jarret's Cross*. Here, on a wide common, is a memorial church, erected 1859, by the Misses Reid, to their brother Major-Gen. Reid; it is a curious modern adaptation of Lombard architecture by *Tite*.

1. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Hedgerley* (R. R. Clayton, Esq.), possessing a pretty park and the Doric pillars from the portico of old Lady Place. The ch., rebuilt by *Ferrey*, 1852, contains a curious instance of a palimpsest brass, in the sepulchral memorial of Thomas Totyngton, Abbot of St. Edmundsbury, who died 1312, which was appropriated in 1540, the year following the spoliation of that ch., to Dame Margaret Bulstrode. The reverse of her inscription, which has been lately made to turn on a hinge, has the following distich:—

"Totyngton Thomas Edmundi qui fuit abbas,
Hic jacet, esto pia sibi Ductrix virgo Maria."

1., close to *the Bull*, a large posting Inn, are the gates of *Bulstrode Park* (Duke of Somerset). In explanation of the name it is said that, when William the Conqueror subdued this kingdom, he gave the estate of the Shobbington family, who lived here, to one of his followers, and sent 1000 men to assist him in taking possession. But the rightful owner, calling

in the aid of his neighbours, gallantly resisted the invader, entrenching himself within an earthwork in the park, which is still shown as evidence of the story, and, as they wanted horses, mounted them upon bulls, and, sallying out of their camp, they so affrighted the Normans that many of them were slain. The king, hearing of this strange affair and not wishing to push matters to an imprudent extent, sent for the valiant Saxon, with a promise of safe-conduct to and from his court. The Saxon paid the Conqueror a visit riding upon a bull, accompanied by his 7 sons similarly mounted, and the result of the interview was that he was allowed to retain his estate. In commemoration of these events he assumed a Bull's head as his crest, together with the name of Bulstrode. There is a distich preserved in the family, that—

"When William conquer'd English ground,
Bulstrode had per annum three hundred pound."

The original mansion was built, 1686, by Judge Jeffreys, whose son-in-law sold it to the Earl of Portland, whose son sold it to the Duke of Somerset in 1807, when all the deer were killed and buried in the park. Mrs. Montagu's letters give an account of the life at Bulstrode in the time of the great Duchess of Portland, owner of the vase. H. Walpole describes Bulstrode as "a melancholy monument of Dutch magnificence, having a brave gallery of old pictures, and a chapel with two fine windows of modern painted glass; and a ceiling formerly adorned with the assumption, or rather the *presumption*, of Chancellor Jeffries, to whom it belonged; but a very judicious fire hurried him somewhere else." This building was pulled down some years since, and the new one, begun in its place, has long been allowed to remain in a state of ruin, but is now about to be finished by the

Duke of Somerset, from a design of *Ferrey*. The gardens contain some fine cedars, tulip-trees, and deciduous cypresses. The large circular entrenchment in the park, enclosing an area of 21 acres, is worthy of notice.

22 m. rt. Wilton Park (James Dupré, Esq.), a good Palladian house, in a very extensive and beautifully wooded park.

23 m. *Beaconsfield* (*Inns*: White Hart, very good; Saracen's Head) (Pop. 1732), like almost all Buckinghamshire towns, consists of a long and very broad single street. At the S. end of it is the *Ch. of All Saints*, with a fine old tower, and an interior much blocked up by pews, but interesting as containing the remains of the great statesman Edmund Burke, who died here July 9th, 1797, aged 68. His son Richard, his brother, and his widow, are commemorated in the same plain marble tablet with himself on the wall of the S. aisle, Burke having forbidden any more sumptuous memorial in his will. In the churchyard, beneath an old walnut-tree, is a tomb surmounted by an obelisk, which marks the grave of Edmund Waller, the poet-lover of Sacharissa, who died 1687. There is a brass to M. and Dorothy Waller, 1627, in the ch.; and a canopied altar-tomb to one of the Bulstrode family. The *Rectory* is an ancient building, containing some interesting fragments. There are some paper-mills in the valley to the S. of the town, and some trade in lace-making is carried on, but the town is in a very depressed condition.

[*rt. Gregories*, the home of Burke, who changed its name to Butler's Court; it was burned down in 1813. The only remains of the buildings are the stables, and the pillars of the entrance gate; the shrubberies remain, though sadly overgrown and neglected, and still bear the

name of "Burke's Grove." Burke purchased the estate—600 acres—for 22,000*l.* Hence he wrote his letters to Barry, who was supported by his generosity in Italy, and to whom he describes his house as "hung from top to bottom with pictures:" and here he received the forlorn poet Crabbe, whom he so nobly took by the hand, raising him from destitution to independence, and for some time receiving him into his family circle. He was visited here by Dr. Johnson, who, "after wandering about the grounds in admiration, succeeded by a reverie, exclaimed, 'Non equidem invideo, miror magis.'"—(*Boswell*.) While here, he lost his son Richard, after whose death he never could bear to look towards Beaconsfield Ch., the place of his interment. "One day, while he was walking in his park, the feeble old horse of his son came close up to him and laid its head upon his bosom, which so affected him that his firmness was totally overpowered, and, throwing his arms over its neck, he wept long and loudly. In 1797 he returned from Bath, to die at Beaconsfield, saying, as he set out, "It is so far, at least, on my way to the tomb, and I may as well travel it alive as dead."—*Prior's Life of Burke*."

The identical dagger which Burke threw down in the heat of debate in the House of Commons is preserved in the house of his bailiff's son near Beaconsfield. The original of Sir Joshua Reynolds's "Infant Hercules" was still living there down to 1850.

$\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of Beaconsfield is *Hall Barns*, the home of Waller the poet, who was lord of the manor, and built a house here for himself. The existing mansion is not that which he built, but was erected, 1712, from designs of Thomas Milner. It is dismantled of all memorials connected with the poet.

his books and pictures having been ruthlessly dispersed by auction about 30 yrs. since. "It is a square brick house, with pilasters, and stone dressings to the windows. The gardens retain much of their original character—broad terrace walks, sheltered by lofty screens of laurel and yew."—(*Jesse*.) The *Garden House* was built by Colin Campbell for the poet's grandson, to contain busts of poets."—(*Vitruv. Britan.*, iii. 49, 50.)

On rt. of the road in going to Chalfont St. Giles, at the back of the Friends' Meeting-house, is a small rough enclosure called *Jourdan's Burial-ground*, appropriated to the sepulture of Quakers, but no longer used. Within it, well known, though unmarked by any stone, is the grave of William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, who was buried here, August 5, 1718, amid a large gathering of his followers and friends, who followed his remains from Rushcombe near Twyford, where he died. His 2 wives, and several of his children, lie beside him. Thomas Elwood, the friend of Milton, is also buried here. Chalfont St. Giles is described in Rte. 11.]

From the *White Hill*, 1 m. beyond Beaconsfield, the road follows the valley of the Wick, between steep beech-clad hills; 1. Wycombe Abbey (Lord Carrington).

26 m. rt. (2 m.) *Penn*, remarkable for its wide views, especially that from *Penn Beacon*, and its beechwood glades, in one of which, near the seat of Earl Howe, a mean building, much injured by fire, and not rebuilt, stands the beautiful modern cruciform ch. and lofty spire of *Penn Street*.

29 m. *High or Chipping Wycombe* (*Inns*: Red Lion, good and reasonable; Falcon Commercial Inn, good), a borough, returning 2 members, and containing 6000 inhab. The town, surrounded by

beech-covered hills, consists chiefly of one long street, in the midst of which is the Town-hall, of brick, resting on stone pillars, built by John Lord Shelburne 1757. The river turns numerous paper and corn mills. Beechwood chairs are manufactured here to a considerable extent, and some lace. Here is a station of the Great Western Rly., forming the terminus of a branch which joins the main line at Maidenhead. (See Rte. 3.) The Stat. occupies part of the old churchyard, whose contents were removed to make way for it.

The *Ch. of All Saints* is large and handsome. "The tower (date 1529), the piers and arches, the clerestory, and timber roof are Perp.; the battlements and pinnacles of the tower are modern stucco-work, erected by Lord Shelburne 1755; most of the exterior walls, the S. porch, and several windows, good E. Dec. There are portions of the roodloft and some very good wood screen-work, dated 1468, remaining. The arches to the transepts are earlier than those in the nave, and the details of the earlier doors and windows are very good. Part of the walling is flint and chalk in small squares."—*Richman*. The altarpiece, "St. Paul converting the Druids," is by *Mortimer*. In the N. aisle of the chancel is the huge monument, by *Scheemaker*, of Henry Petty Earl of Shelburne, who bequeathed 2000*l.* for the purpose of its erection; he is represented in marble, reclining on a sarcophagus ornamented with a medallion of his father Sir Wm. Petty; Religion opens a book to him; Virtue, Learning, Charity, and a Roman warrior stand to the rt. and l. There is also a monument, by *Carlini*, to Sophia Lady Shelburne, died 1771. In the churchyard observe the curious epitaph of Thomas Aldridge, 1783.

The *Grammar School* was origin-

ally an hospital of St. John Baptist, and exhibits arches, piers, &c., the remains of a Norm. Ch. A mosaic pavement and other Roman remains have been found at Wycombe.

A little S. of Wycombe is the *Abbey* (Lord Carrington), formerly the seat of the Petty family, rebuilt by J. Wyatt.

Edmund Waller the poet was member for High Wycombe in 1625; Sir Edward Verney, Charles I.'s standard-bearer, who fell at Edgehill, 1639-40; Thomas Scott the regicide, during the Protectorate.

[2 m. N. of High Wycombe is *Hitchendon* or *Hughendon*, whose ch. (St. Michael) contains some very curious monuments of the Wellesburnes and Montforts. The cross-legged knight in ring-mail is supposed to be Richard, son of Simon de Montfort and grandson of King John, who returned to England after the banishment of his family, where he took the name of Wellesburne in addition to his own, and lived at Rochols or *Wreck Hall*, in this parish. The double-tailed lion on his shield has a child in its mouth, of which the story is lost. *Meyrick* quotes this effigy as the earliest instance of a sword and dagger being used together. The next tomb is an effigy in pointed helmet and mixed plate and chain armour, probably his son. There are 4 other tombs—an emaciated figure in a shroud, and 3 incised slabs of men in armour; 2 having the shield of the lion and child, one of them in profile. The arms on the tombs are repeated on a pillar near them. There are a good round font and Norm. doorway; and a good brass of Robert Thursloe, chaplain, 1493. The *Almshouses* near the ch. were built by Ellen Countess Conyngham. On the hill above the ch. is *Hughendon Manor-house* (Right Honourable Benjamin Disraeli, M.P.).]

The long straight road to West

Wycombe is terminated by a steep grass-covered hill, on the top of which is a building which might be supposed to be a summer-house, but which is really a church.

31½ m. *West Wycombe*, a picturesque village nestling under the hill-side. A path beneath the quaint old clock, which overhangs the street, leads up the steep grassy slope to the ch. (the keys must be obtained at the post-office). The side of the hill towards the village is covered with venerable old yew-trees; half-way up, beneath an artificial ruin, is the entrance of the *Caves*, excavated by Lord le Despencer, and penetrating for ¼ m. into the chalk cliff. The path, which is very slippery, sometimes divides and leaves a huge pillar of chalk to support the roof. The guide who shows the ch. is provided with candles for the caves. Lord le Despencer was Francis Dashwood, celebrated for his vices, but especially as the founder of the Franciscans at Medmenham, who were the disgrace of the last century. When he rebuilt the ch. in 1763 (except the tower and chancel, which were modernised), he had part of the interior fitted up as a room in which to hold convivial parties. The internal decorations of the ch. are most extraordinary; the pulpit and reading-desk being arm-chairs, apparently raised upon chests of drawers, of which the drawers, when pulled out, form steps; the font being a bronze tripod, to support a basin surrounded by doves, in pursuit of which a serpent is climbing. The ceiling of the chancel has a painting of the Last Supper (observe the eyes of Judas, which follow you), and some old glass. The view from the tower is extensive; the Ch. of High Wycombe rises finely at the end of the valley, through which the river winds; the three roads into Oxfordshire divide at the foot of the hill. The huge ball at the top contains a room with

seats round it. On the exterior of the N. wall is a faded fresco of the Martyrdom of St. Lawrence, to whom the building is dedicated.

Attached to the E. end of the churchyard is an open-air *Mausoleum*, built from funds bequeathed by George Bubb Doddington, Lord Melcombe. It is hexagonal in form, and has a cornice supported by Tuscan columns, between which are recesses for monuments. Here are 2 hideous busts of Lord le Despencer, Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1784, one in a helmet, and one of his daughter Antonina; also statues of his 2nd and 3rd wives, seated together between pillars; the 4th wife, Sarah Baroness Despencer, has an urn in the centre of the building with the inscription "Mors solamen miseria." Here also is a marble urn which once contained the heart of Paul Whitehead ("Paul the Aged"), secretary of the Medmenham mysteries—

"Born a Whitehead, and baptised a Paul."

He bequeathed it to Lord le Despencer, and it was deposited here in solemn procession, in the presence of the Bucks militia, with the accompaniment of an incantation set to music by Dr. Arnold, in 1775! The urn is inscribed—

"Unhallow'd hands, this gem forbear;
No gems nor orient spoil
Lie here conceal'd, but, what's more rare,
A heart that knew no guile."

But the heart, which was enclosed in lead, was constantly taken out to be shown to visitors, and in 1839 it was stolen, and it is supposed that one of them carried it off in his pocket.

1. *West Wycombe Park* (Sir J. Dashwood King, Bart.), built by Sir Fr. Dashwood, but much enlarged by his son, Lord le Despencer, to whom it owes its richness of decoration, 1763. The exterior of the house was ornamented with frescoes by *Joseph Borghi*, now

much faded. The ceilings of the principal rooms are painted with mythological subjects. The house contains a number of paintings, the greater part family portraits; also John Milton; a Holy Family, *Rubens*; the Raising of Lazarus, *P. Veronese*. The grounds and park, partly laid out by *Repton*, are enlivened by a lake and the river winding through them. The house is no longer shown.

[rt. 3m. *Bradenham House*, built originally by William Lord Windsor, c. 1558, and visited by Queen Elizabeth on her return from Oxford, 1566, was long the residence of the late Isaac D'Israeli, author of the 'Curiosities of Literature.' The village is remarkable for its bees. The *Ch.* contains a good brass of Rich. Redberd, rector, c. 1500-58; and a large monument of the Hon. Charles West, eldest son of Lord Delawarr, 1684, and his wife, daughter of Sir E. Pye (voted a delinquent and fined by the Parliament), who had purchased the estate of the Windsors.

rt. 6 m., on the border of the county, is the remarkable village of *Bledlow*. The *ch.* is old and interesting, but much spoiled by whitewash. It has some beautiful capitals, several curious piscinas, especially one in the S. porch, a Dec. niche in the N. aisle, a good lancet window in the chancel, some fragments of old glass, and a very fine cup-shaped font. The arrangement of the seats is peculiar, the pews only surrounding the *ch.* in a single row, the remainder being filled by low benches. Beneath the *ch.* is the beautiful and extraordinary ravine called the Glyde, where a number of springs, picturesquely overhung by old trees and ivy, burst out of the cliff. When the cattle are driven down into the glen to drink, the scene is worthy of *Salvator Rosa*. There is an old prophecy of Mother Ship-ton—

"They who live, and do abide,
Shall see Bledlow church fall into the
Glyde."

In the same direction, on the Thames road (7 m.), is *Prince's Risborough*, a small town which derived its name from Edward the Black Prince, who is said to have built a palace there, on a spot on the W. of the churchyard, which is still marked by a moat. In the S. aisle of the *Ch.* is a beautiful E. E. window, with detached shafts, and a row of long low Dec. niches. Beyond this is *Monks' Risborough*, which belonged to the monastery of Canterbury. The *Ch.* (of St. Dunstan) is much dilapidated, but contains a curious screen painted with 12 figures, and some fine carved bench-ends, with fragments of a roodloft, brasses, and stained glass. Near it are the remains of monastic fish-ponds, and an old stone pigeon-house with a foliated Gothic door. Into a house near the *ch.* are built fragments from "*Old Place*," a monastic farm, destroyed 1859.]

Bletchley, and thence by Branch Rly., Rte. 14).

For the road as far as 18 m. see *Handb. for Middlesex* and Rte. 10: here, 2 m. beyond Uxbridge, the road turns off rt. from the main road to High Wycombe and Oxford, and reaches

20 m. rt. *Chalfont House* (J. Hibbert, Esq.), once the ancient manor of *Brudenels*, in a beautifully wooded undulating park, watered by the Misbourne, and containing the largest ash-tree in England, 25 ft. in circumference. The *House* was built by General Churchill, and bears evidence to the taste of his brother-in-law Horace Walpole in its Strawberry-hill Gothic, though it is much improved and altered. Walpole frequently visited here, and speaks of Mr. Chute having made "the sweetest plan imaginable" for the remodelling of the house. Here is a fine portrait by *Gainsborough*.

20½ m. *Chalfont St. Peter's* (formerly Chalfhant, pronounced by the natives Charfhunt), a large village, intersected by the Misbourne without a bridge, where there is an admirable adaptation of a hideous red brick *ch.* of the last cent. by *Street*, 1854. Here are good brasses of William Whapclode, 1388; John Whapclode, seneschal of Cardinal Beaufort, 1446; and Robert Hansom, the last Roman Catholic incumbent, 1548. A house called *The Grange*, on rt., was once the residence of bloody Judge Jeffreys. At the cross-roads is an obelisk to commemorate George III. being in at the killing of a stag, on that spot, while hunting.

22½ m. l. *Chalfont St. Giles*. This secluded village is interesting as having been the place of refuge chosen by John Milton during the plague of London (1665). The house in which he lived, "a pretty box," as he called it, hired for him by his friend Elwood the Quaker, and in which he (already blind) concluded

ROUTE 11.

LONDON TO BRACKLEY, BY CHALFONT, AMERSHAM [CHENIES, LATIMERS], WENDOVER, AYLESBURY, WINSLOW, AND BUCKINGHAM.

64 m.

(The quickest way of reaching Buckingham from London is by North-Western Rly., Rte. 13, to

his 'Paradise Lost,' and drew out the first design of 'Paradise Regained,' still exists, a humble, half-timbered cottage, and bears the name of Milton on its front. Chalfont is little changed, and quite as quiet as in Milton's days.

Attached to the *Ch.* is the Mausoleum of Francis Hare, Bp. of Chichester, a celebrated divine of the reign of Queen Anne, and Chaplain to the great Duke of Marlborough, whom he accompanied on the fields of Blenheim and Ramillies. The ancient manor of the Vatche in this parish was long the residence of the Hare family, to whom it descended from the marriage of Bp. Hare with the heiress of the Alstons. The house is now modernised, and the ancient chapel and moat are destroyed. The name was formerly Vache, and, according to local tradition, the place was a dairy-farm of King John.

26 m. AMERSHAM, formerly Agmondesham (*Imms*: Crown; White Swan. Pop. 3643), in a wooded valley, is celebrated for its lace and beechwood-chairs. It is an ancient borough disfranchised by the Reform Bill. It was represented for more than 2 centuries by the ancient family of the Drakes of Shardeloes. The brick *Ch. of St. Mary* contains their monuments, with those of the Dents and Curwens in the chancel, which has a fine E. window filled with ancient stained glass. The monument of Montague Gerard Drake, on a Sarcophagus, is by *Scheemaker*. Attached to the chancel is a chantry entirely filled with monuments of the Drakes. There is a fine one by Weekes of the late Thos. Tyrwhitt Drake, 1852. In the aisle are some curious brasses of the Brudenels (of the ancient manor of Raames), the Batemans, and the Drakes. John Knox used to preach here. Some curious records are preserved in the ch.—one of the *baptism of "Edmund Waller, son of*

Robert, March 9th, 1605."

added to the register by a churchwarden in 1661, says, "Francis Russell lived at the Farm, in the parish of Chalfont St. Giles, and on the confines of this parish; he was one of Oliver's justices, and a fit man for the times. I knew his son, a kind of Non. Con., who came to poverty and sold ye farm. General Fleetwood lived at ye Vache, and Russel on ye opposite hill, and Mrs. Cromwell, Oliver's wife, and her daughters, at Woodrow High House, where afterwards lived Captain James Thompson; so ye whole country was kept in awe, and became exceedingly zealous and very fanatical, nor is ye poison yet eradicated. But ye Whartons are gone, and ye Hampdens agoing."

The hamlet of *Coleshill*, 1 m. S. of this, was the birthplace of Waller the poet, who there composed some of his verses under an oak. He twice sat in Parliament as representative of Amersham, for which Algernon Sydney was also member.

William Scrivener died for his faith at Amersham 1521, "his own children being forced to set the first fire upon him;" and "William Tylesworth was burnt at Amersham (the rendezvous of God's children in those days), and Joan, his only daughter, and a faithful woman, was compelled with her own hands to set fire to her dear father."—*Fuller*.

For a local tradition that the spot where these martyrs were burnt (25 yds. in circumference) has always remained barren, in spite of all efforts to fertilise it, see *Gent. Mag.*, Oct. 1811.

[4 m. E. of Amersham (6 m. from Watford Stat.) is *Chenies*, formerly *Istenhampstead*, which has obtained its present name from its former possessors, the ancient family of Cheyne. It is one of the prettiest villages in the county, both in itself and its situation on the *Chess*, and

shows the influence of a great and wealthy family in its neat cottages, picturesquely grouped around the village green, which has a fountain shaded by elm-trees. The ch.-living and much of the adjoining land are the property of the Russells, to whom they descended, 1560, by the marriage of the 1st Earl of Bedford with the heiress of the Sapcotes. The beautifully restored parish *Ch.* contains 2 remarkable brasses — 1, Lady Cheyne (widow of Sir John Cheyne of Drayton Beauchamp), and her second husband Sir Edmund Molyneux, 1494; 2, her niece and heiress Anne Phelype, 1510. The N. chapel has been the burial-place of the Russells since 1556; it is hung with banners, and contains a series of regal-looking tombs, which are like a family portrait-gallery, and are described by H. Walpole as "the house of Russell robed in alabaster and painted. There are 7 monuments in all; one is immense in marble, cherubined and seraphimed, crusted with bas-reliefs and titles (coats-of-arms) for the 1st Duke of Bedford and his Duchess." These are seated with looks averted from a medallion of their son Wm. Lord Russell (beheaded in Lincoln's Inn Fields 1683), raised on a pillar between them, and covered by a canopy. On either side between the pillars are medallions of their other children. Among the other monuments are those of John 1st Earl and his Countess Anne Sapcote, through whom he obtained the property; of Francis Earl of Bedford and his Countess, 1585; of their daughter Anne Countess of Warwick and their granddaughter Lady F. Bouchier, erected "by Anne Countess of Dorset, her deare cosen, at her own costes and charges, 1612;" and a white marble monument by Wilton and Chambers to Wriothesley 2nd Duke of Bedford, and his Duchess, 1711. In the vault beneath are interred more than 50 of the house of Russell, among whom

is Rachel, widow of William Lord Russell and author of the Letters, who is buried without a monument.

In this ch. the famous Anne Countess of Dorset was married to Philip Earl of Pembroke in 1630. Close to the ch. is a most picturesque Gothic fragment of the *manor-house* of the Sapcotes almost rebuilt by the 1st Lord Russell in the time of Henry VIII. Leland (about 1538) says, "The olde house of the Cheyneis is so translated by Lord Russell, that bath this house on the right of his wife, that little or nothing of it in a manner remaineth untranslated; and a great deal of the house is even newly set up, made of brick and timber, and fair lodgings be new erected in the garden. The house is within divers places richly painted with antique works of white and black" (*Itin.* vol. i.). Here Queen Elizabeth was entertained 1570. Since the desertion to Woburn this has been a farm-house.

The *Monk's Walk*, along the brow of the hill, shaded by elm-trees, is remarkable.

Close to Chenies is Chorley Wood — seat of Wm. Longman, Esq. — who has so benevolently enlightened the rustics of Chenies, and the world in general, by his Lectures on English History, delivered at the village club-house.

1 m. from Chenies is *Latimers* (Lord Chesham), described by H. Walpole as "finely situated on a hill in a beechwood, with a river at the bottom, and a range of hills and woods on the opposite side." The house, which he laments over as having undergone "Batty-Langley discipline," an Elizabethan red brick mansion, has been recently almost entirely rebuilt from designs of *Blore*. The drawing-room is an enlargement of the chamber in which Chas. II. slept when he was entertained here by the Countess of Devonshire and her son (then a minor), before his flight to the Continent.

The house contains some fine family portraits, and a good collection of the old masters, removed hither from Burlington House. Here was born the Hester Sandys mentioned by Fuller as living to see 700 persons descended from herself.]

[rt. 3 m. N.E. of Amersham is the market town of *Chesham* (Pop. 5388, containing a large Gothic Ch. of St. Mary. The neighbouring parish of *Chesham Bois* takes its name from the family De Bois, who lived here in the reign of John. Its ch. dedicated to St. Leonard is interesting; it contains a curious pulpit, some fine stained glass, and the elaborate altar-tomb of John Cheyne, the patron of Hooker.]

The road on leaving Amersham passes through the beautiful park of *Shardeloes* (T. T. Drake, Esq.). The house contains portraits of Queen Elizabeth; Sir Francis Drake; Sir Christopher Hatton, *Jansen*; 4 Landscapes, *Vernet*, &c.

28½ m. Little Missenden.

31 m. Great Missenden, so called from the river Mise, or Miss, which rises near it. A large village, above which, on rt., is a cottage, long the retreat of Mr. Stephen, Wilberforce's brother-in-law and powerful coadjutor in the anti-slavery struggle. In the ch. are brasses to J. Iwardby, his wife (the daughter and heiress of Bernard de Missenden), and 4 children, 1536, and to Mary Metcalf, 1596.

Great Missenden Abbey (G. Carington, Esq.) retains in its cloisters some scanty remains of the flint walls of a religious house founded for Black Canons in 1133.

Just beyond the village a road turns off l. to Hampden and Chesham.

[3 m. l. from Missenden (passing at a crossway an old tree known as *King John's Tree*) is a secluded spot high up among the Chilterns, where, shrouded in ancient woods and approached through a long

beech avenue, stands *Great Hampden*, the paternal seat of the patriot John Hampden, and still the property of his descendant in the 7th generation through heirs female, Lady V. Cameron. The original house remains, and, though much disfigured by modern whitewash and stucco, it is still interesting from its historical recollections. John Hampden, whose father died when he was 3 yrs. old, was brought up here as the young lord of the ancient estate of his family. Hither he returned after the dissolution of the Parliament of 1628; here he lost and mourned over his first wife, and spent 11 yrs. in study (his favourite author being Davila, the historian of the Civil Wars in France), in field-sports, and in the fulfilment of the duties of a country gentleman, in which he gained so great a popularity that when he was supposed to be in danger no less than 4000 Buckinghamshire freeholders rode up to London to form a body-guard for his person. Hence on Sunday, June 18, 1643, he led forth his men to the fatal field of Chalgrove. He never returned alive, but as many soldiers as could be spared from the adjacent quarters of the army brought his body through the lanes of the Chilterns to be buried in his own churchyard, marching with arms reversed, muffled drums, and their heads uncovered, chanting the 90th Psalm as they came, and the 43rd as they departed, and "Never were heard such piteous cries at the death of one man as at Master Hampden's."—*Clough*.

The house, which is entered by a curious old hall, surrounded by a wooden gallery, contains many historical relics. Among them are a small bust and 2 portraits of John Hampden, one of them by *Jansen*, brought from Strawberry Hill, both of doubtful authenticity; a full-length portrait of Henrietta Maria;

also Sir Kenelm Digby, *Vandyck*; Ralph Earl of Lindsay; Bishop Bonner; Oliver Cromwell in armour; Richard Hampden, Chancellor of Exchequer, in his robes; and Mr. Child, who died in the house on the eve of his marriage with the daughter of Robert 1st Viscount Hampden. There is a curious full-length of Elizabeth in the room occupied by her, but that which is shown as her bed, with chintz hangings lined with satin, is of later date. A long room at the top of the house, called John Hampden's Library, is filled with old books; and in a small library below, where Hampden was sitting when the Commissioners came to arrest him, is a Bible of the Cromwell family, with the register of his birth and those of his brothers and sisters. Several of the old stucco ceilings are curious. In the Park, which is diversified with oak-covered knolls, is the avenue, still called the Queen's Gap, which was cut to make an entrance for Elizabeth on her visit to his grandfather Griffith Hampden, by whom the hall was almost rebuilt.

Near the house is the picturesque *Ch.*, where, on the S. wall of the chancel, is the plain, dark-grey tablet erected by Hampden to his first wife Elizabeth Simeon, with his beautiful epitaph upon her. Close beside it is the grave of John Hampden, without any memorial. It was opened by his historian Lord Nugent, when his body was found in such a perfect state, that the picture on the staircase of the house was known to be his from the likeness. Close by are brasses of John Hampden, 1446, and of Sir J. Hampden and his 2 wives, 1553. Opposite, bedecked with Cupids, is the monument of another John Hampden, the last heir male, who left the estate to the Trevors, from whom it passed to the Hobarts. It is adorned with a tree hung with shields bearing the

arms and alliances of the Hampdens, at the foot of which is a representation of the battle of Chalgrove Field. The parcel of land, belonging to Hampden, in Great Kimble parish, upon which he refused to pay the small rate of 31s. 6d. assessed for ship-money, is still pointed out on the S. side of the avenue.

The Chilterns are here much broken by wooded dells, in and above which the beech appears to be indigenous. "The woods of Hampden terminate to the N. upon the bare brow of a lofty hill called Green Holy, in the side of which is cut in the chalk the form of a cross, which is seen from all the country round. This monument, of very remote antiquity, is called the *White-Leaf Cross* (from the hamlet of White-Leaf). It appears to have been intended as a memorial of the last battle of the Britons with Hengist and Horsa, which was fought over the extensive plain of Risborough and Saunderton. The Saxon princes planted their victorious standards on this height and on the Bledlow Ridge adjoining, to recall their troops from the pursuit."—*Lord Nugent*, i. 289.]

The road after leaving Missenden reaches the chalk range known as the Chiltern Hills, which it traverses by a natural pass or dene, 5 m. long, extending to the small town which hence probably derives its name, Wend-over.

36 m. WENDOVER (*Inn*: Red Lion, a very good country inn)—Pop. 1877—7½ m. from the Tring Stat. (Rte. 13). This town, which was represented in five parliaments by John Hampden, lost its franchise at the passing of the Reform Bill. It stands at the foot of the Chilterns, which are here clothed with beech-trees.

The *Ch. of St. Mary* is ¼ m. distant from the town, and is reached by a pretty walk along the banks of a stream. "It was to have been

placed on a field adjoining the town, and there the building of it was begun; but the materials were all carried away in the night by witches, or, as some relate the tradition, by fairies, and deposited where the ch. now stands. The field where it was to have been built is still called Witchall Meadow."—*Notes and Queries*. In the ch. is a very curious brass, 1637, giving a pictorial pedigree of the Bradshaw family.

Hence there is a pleasant walk of 3 m. across the downs to *Chequers Court* (Lady Frankland Russell), one of the most beautiful places in Bucks, which according to local tradition derives its name from having been the Exchequer in the reign of John, though a house existed here at the time of the Conquest. The present picturesque mansion, with its gables and bay windows, remains, with the exception of the S. front, which is modern, as it was repaired by Mr. Wm. Hawtrey, its possessor in the reign of Elizabeth, when Lady Mary Grey (sister of Lady Jane), who had offended the Queen by a private marriage with Thomas Keys, the Serjeant Porter, was sent here to be under his charge, while her bridegroom was imprisoned in the Fleet. Here she was detained for 2 yrs. "without going abroad," until she was sent in 1567 to be under the less vigilant surveillance of her relation the Duchess of Suffolk. The initials W. H. (for William Hawtrey) still remain on the N. front, with a haw-tree between them, and chequers on either side. In the drawing-room is a fine portrait of Sir Wm. Hawtrey, son of Lady Mary's keeper, and his wife Winifred Dormer. The library, 81 ft. long, is a very remarkable and beautiful room, hung with portraits and adorned with stained glass.

The chief interest of the house rests however in the collection of relics of Oliver Cromwell and his family, which is unrivalled, and

which exists here in consequence of the marriage, 1664, of Sir John Russell of Chequers with Frances youngest daughter of the Protector and widow of Robert Rich. Among the portraits are Oliver Cromwell at 3 yrs. old; Oliver Cromwell in armour, with Sir Peter Temple tying his sash; Oliver Cromwell on horseback, painted on copper; Oliver Cromwell, half-length, by *Walker*;—his mother, in a close black cap (very like him);—his 2 sons, Richard, afterwards Lord Protector, by *Walker*; Henry, Lord Deputy of Ireland, and ditto as a boy;—his 4 daughters, Bridget, wife of Henry Ireton, afterwards of Charles Fleetwood; Mary, Lady Falconberg; Frances, Lady Russell; Elizabeth, Mrs. Claypole. John Claypole and Ireton, his sons-in-law; Thurloe, his Secretary of State; Jeremy White, his chaplain; Lambert, his President of the Council; Col. Sandys; and Cornet Joyce, who took Charles I. prisoner from Holmby House to Newmarket, and had charge of him in the Isle of Wight. Among the relics are—the mask of Cromwell's face taken after death; his clothes; a miniature of him of great value, set in a ring, which belonged to one of his daughters; his sword; his watch; and an impression of the Great Seal of the Commonwealth.

Other valuable pictures in the house are—Charles II., after the battle of Worcester, with Col. Lindsay, meeting Lord Wilmot and Col. Gunter, preparatory to Charles's escape into France; a curious unknown portrait (in the ante-room), the fac-simile of one at Dynton, inscribed

"Awaye I passe from that I was,
What I gave I have, that I keep I lose;"

Mrs. Ellis, *Sir P. Lely*; the Countess of Richmond, mother of Henry VII., believed to be an original; the Fable of the Lion and the Mouse,

a masterpiece of *Snyders*, the background by *Rubens*. The house is not shown except by especial permission.

N.W. of the house rises a grassy point in the Chiltern range, known as the Beacon Hill, a spot of exquisite beauty unrivalled in the neighbourhood, whence it is believed that even the Malvern Hills can be distinguished. The view extends over an immense plain, sprinkled with numerous churches, mansions, and villages, among which the town of Aylesbury with its quaint spire, and the great house of Mentmore, are conspicuous. The undulating downs on the rt. extend to Edlesborough; on the l. is the conical hill known as *Piccadilly*, above which, in a wood, is a camp supposed to be Danish; while beyond the hill are clothed by the beech-woods of Hampden, the W. and S. sides of the hill itself being covered with woods of indigenous box. Immediately beneath, three beautiful box-fringed valleys debouch upon the plain, of which that on the rt. is *Velvet Lawn*, a well-known spot even for London picnics; which is bounded on the E. by the Castle Hill or *Cymbeline's* (Cunobeline's) *Mount*, whence that king, being appointed generalissimo, went to oppose Julius Cæsar, and where there are traces of an ancient entrenchment; while at its foot, itself rising on a lofty mound, is the ancient Ch. of Edlesborough. The valley in the centre, "Silver Spring," ends in the picturesque Ch. of Little Kimble; while that on the l., the "Happy Valley," is closed by the Ch. of Great Kimble. This view should be seen in the evening, when the sun sets grandly behind the purple plain. The tourist should descend by some of the many winding paths, into the exquisite box-woods, in order to admire the immense size and beauty of the box-trees. In Gerard's 'Herbal,' published 1599,

box is mentioned as "growing in many waste and barren hills in England," but there are now only two other places where it can be really recognised as indigenous.

Ellesborough Ch., founded by St. Edburga of Quarrendon, contains a fine tomb of Brigetta Croke of Chequers, 1659, "*Fœminæ nihil habens nisi sexum.*"

Little Kimble Ch., lately restored by Lady Frankland Russell, contains some curious red outline mural paintings, representing the Annunciation, Crucifixion, Entombment, a Red-Cross Knight, &c. A bramble-tree is allowed to grow luxuriantly in the inside of the ch., shading a window.

Great Kimble Ch. contains part of a roodloft, a Norm. font, some good heraldic tiles, and stained glass, by the Frankland family.

Great Hampden is about 5 m. from Wendover, by a pretty walk crossing the hills. A branch canal runs from Wendover to the Grand Junction, passing under the woods of *Halton* (Sir A. Rothschild); the 3 great reservoirs are at Drayton Beauchamp.

40½ m. AYLESBURY (Pop. 26,794).

Inns: George, White Hart—very good. A branch line connects Aylesbury with the London and Birmingham Rly.; 4 trains to London daily in 2½ hrs. At present being the assize town, the place where the quarter sessions are held, and the principal place of county election, it has the best right to be considered the county town.

This is a very ancient town, and was one of the strongest British fortresses. It was formerly called *Eglesburge*.

The *Ch. of St Mary* is a fine E. E. cruciform structure (about 1250), with numerous alterations and additions down to the latest Perp. The large W. window is an example of debased Perp., and the doorway leading into the S. transept a fine

specimen of the time of Henry VII. The ch. consists of a nave, with N. and S. aisles (to which chapels have been added at a later period); a low tower, with fine E. E. triforium, surmounted by a campanile or clock-tower of the age of Charles II.; transepts; and a noble chancel, beautifully restored and filled with stained glass, after designs by *Willement* and *Oliphant*. On the N. of the chancel is the organ chamber, with a sacristy beyond, and a sleeping chamber over it with an ancient fireplace. The sacristy is a very curious and interesting chamber. It is fitted up with an old oak quadrant wardrobe of 15th centy., with a swinging horse for the vestments; there is also a cupboard or locker adjoining, apparently intended as a receptacle for the sacred vessels. This chamber is entered by a door, which fastens with a very curious bar lock, turned by a winch key from without, and is lighted by 2 small lancet windows. At the S. of the chancel are an inner and an outer vestry: the latter, of Dec. architecture, was probably built as a chantry to the ch. Among other interesting details are 2 canopied Dec. tombs in the S. chapel, and a small cusped cross in a quatrefoil, carved on the jamb of a window at the W. of the N. aisle. The ch. being considered insecure was restored under *Scott* in 1849.

The *Prebendal House*, adjoining the churchyard, formerly the residence of the prebendaries of Aylesbury, is now the private property of the vicar (Venerable Archdeacon Bickersteth).

The neighbourhood of Aylesbury is celebrated for its *ducks*, of which 4000l. worth are annually sent to London.

1½ m. l. of Aylesbury, lying low in a park, is *Hartwell* (Dr. Lee, whose family obtained it by marriage in 1617, through the successive families of *Hartwell*, *Luton*, *Stokes*, *Singlet*,

ton, and *Hampden*). It is interesting as the abode 1810-14 of the exiled Louis XVIII. and the Duchess d'Angoulême, the "Child of the Temple," but is not shown without a written order obtained from the owner. "It is hidden from passers by on the highway by a screen of superb trees, and it was nearly 2 centuries. old when the king took possession. If it wanted dignity of elevation, it possessed dignity of breadth. There was an agreeable variety in its several aspects. Of its 4 faces, directed towards the cardinal points of the compass, one had an ancient and melancholy aspect; the second had a grave Elizabethan cheerfulness; the third was light, airy, and smiling; and the fourth had a trimmed polished air of modernly invented comfort. The house was strong enough to resist a siege. It had, and has, its porticoes, its porches, and its quaint seats. . . . The drawing-room was of royal dimensions and beauty; staircases quaintly noble, with oaken rails and statues; carved ceilings; marble mantelpieces, perplexing those who gazed on them by their abundant allegorical difficulties; and panelled walls, whereon the representatives of old valour and ancient loveliness kept their silent state, added to the general effect: altogether, *Hartwell* was a house wherein misery might be tolerably comfortable upon 24,000l. a year.

"In this and in the out-buildings 140 persons were quartered; the number, including visitors, often exceeding 200."—*Romer*. "So numerous a party required such extensive accommodations, that the halls, gallery, and the larger apartments were often divided and subdivided into suites of rooms and closets, in some instances to the great disorder and confusion of the mansion. Every out-house, and each of the ornamental buildings in the park, that could be rendered

capable of decent shelter, were densely occupied; and it was curious to see how the second and third class stowed themselves away in the attics of the house, converting one room into several by the adaptation of light partitions. On the ledges, and in the bows of the roof, they formed gardens, which were stocked with plants, shrubs, and flowers."—*Smyth's 'Ædes Hartwellianæ.'*

Louis XVIII. led a very retired life at Hartwell, but won a large amount of popularity. He was as affable as he was unostentatious; and would enter into conversation even with strangers whom he casually encountered in his rare and brief walks. The library was converted into a court reception-room, the drawing-room being surrendered to the Prince and Princess de Condé, to whom it served both as saloon and dormitory. In the library the King's couch was raised on a dais. The rooms ordinarily inhabited by him were the study and a small room adjoining. The apartment above the library was that in which the Queen died, and where she lay in state. The de-throned king of Sweden afterwards occupied this room. The apartments of the Duke and Duchess d'Angoulême were at the S.E. angle of the building. It was while seated in the middle window, overlooking the approach to the house (March 25, 1814), that Madame Gonet, one of the court ladies, first caught sight of the carriages which dashed in bearing the joyful news from Bordeaux, and uttered exclamations which disturbed the royal family at their prayers, for it was Lady Day.

Each room still has its relics of the Royal family. In the room where the queen died are the pictures of Louis XVIII. and the Prince de Condé, sent over by them after the restoration; in the adjoining

room of the Archbishop of Toulouse remain his letter and the missal from which he used to read; in the room of Louis XVIII. is his Prie-Dieu; and in their temporary chapel, the confessional of the royal family. The very bells have their original names—the King's Room, the Queen's, Archbishop's, Duc de Berry's, d'Angoulême's, Damas', d'Avary's, &c.

Smyth's 'Ædes Hartwellianæ' gives the history of Hartwell in two large 4to. vols.

The chief object of interest in the house itself is the staircase, which is adorned with 24 figures of kings and warriors in oak, standing on the balustrade. A large room in the upper floor is used as a museum, and contains a fine geological collection, especially of the fossils found in the neighbourhood. There is also a collection of Egyptian antiquities, including some curious embalmed animals, and a magnificent mummy-case. Hartwell also possesses a fine collection of manuscripts. Among the pictures are two fine portraits, Sir J. Suckling and Wm. Marquis of Newcastle, *Vandyke*; Frederick Prince of Wales, Lady Charlotte Lee, Lady Elizabeth Lee, *Reynolds*; Sir Thomas Lee, *Kneller*; a curious picture of the Confirmation of the present Archbishop of Canterbury, with 35 portraits from life.

The neighbourhood is very interesting in a geological point of view, and abounds in fossils, especially in ammonites. Prof. Morris has lately been devoting much attention to the fossils of the Kimmeridge and Oxford clay, which form the principal part of the Vale of Aylesbury. He has also arranged the collection of fossils from Hartwell and Stone, in Dr. Lee's museum. The fine white sand of Hartwell is remarkably pure and transparent, and is much used for optical purposes.

1 m. hence is Stone, where there

is a great modern lunatic asylum. The Ch., which is an interesting specimen of the early part of the 12th centy., with Anglo - Norm. arches and font, has been lately restored.

[1. 2 m. W. of Hartwell is *Dynton* or *Dinton*. The S. door of the Ch. is very curious. The pillars have spiral shafts, and within the arch are carved 2 monsters devouring fruit from a tree, with St. Michael thrusting the cross down the throat of the dragon.

Close by is the *Manor-house* (Rev. J. J. Goodall), lately restored, containing portions of a building of the time of Edward the Confessor, but chiefly built temp. Hen. VII. by Archbishop Warham, who resided here. His arms, with those of the king, are to be seen in the stained glass of the hall window; and the initial W. is frequently repeated in other parts of the house. The stained glass on the staircase is interesting, especially a fly, which it is impossible not to mistake for reality. Among the pictures is a very fine portrait of Oliver Cromwell, who stayed here while Charles I. was at Oxford; and the estate is held by tenure of his sword, the same which he used at Naseby. This was the house of Simon Mayne the regicide; and there existed, till a few years ago, the secret chamber in the roof in which he was successfully concealed for some time, but was at length forced to capitulate from starvation. It was under a staircase, and could only be discovered when 3 of the steps were lifted up, disclosing a trough lined with cloth, up which he could crawl. In a similar hiding-place in the house of Sir Samuel Luke, Butler wrote 'Hudibras.' Mayne had a clerk, James Bigg, who became celebrated as the *Dinton Hermit*, and who, according to the local tradition, was the actual person who cut off King Charles's head.

He lived in a neighbouring cave, where he died in 1696, by which time his garment (for he had only one), had become extraordinary as a piece of patchwork, and his shoes made up of 1000 pieces of leather from constant mending. One of them is still preserved at the Manor-house, the other is in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. Other curiosities are—a beautiful Anglo-Saxon glass dug up at Dinton Castle, and a jug with a portrait of Edward IV. upon it. On the same spot some ancient spears were found, one still remaining through the neck of a skeleton.

4 m. W., near *Long Crendon*, are the remains of *Notley Abbey* (or St. Mary de Parco), founded by William Giffard Earl of Buckingham, 1162, for Augustine monks from Arras to pray for the souls of his ancestors King Henry and Queen Eleanor. The remains are now incorporated into a most picturesque farm-house, which has a turret at one angle, and some fine old Gothic windows. Within, the original broad stone staircase remains, and some of the monastic rooms, with the words "En lui plesa'c" (plesance) constantly repeated in red and black letters upon the cornices. The roof of the hall was removed by the Berties to Chesterton in Oxfordshire. The fine cruciform Ch. of *Long Crendon* has one of the bells from Notley, inscribed, "In multis annis resonat campana Johannis." The font rests upon lions. There is a monument of Sir John and Lady Dormer, 1605, and brasses of John and Agnes Canon, 1460, 68. Hence, according to tradition, there is a subterranean communication with the Abbeys both of Nutley and Thame.]

Leaving Aylesbury, the road runs between rich meadow pastures, which verify the lines of Drayton in the 'Polyolbion':—

"Aylesbury's vale that walloweth in her wealth,
And (by her wholesome air continually in health)
Is lusty, firm, and fat; and holds her youthful strength."

Fuller speaks of one entire pasture called Berryfield, in the manor of Quarrendon, which let yearly for 800*l.*—equal to 8000*l.* of our money.

1. 43 m. (2½ m. from Aylesbury), in a marshy meadow, is the ruin of Quarrendon Chapel, now reduced to a few roofless arches, and the remains of a beautiful Dec. E. window: it contained the fine monuments of the Lee family, including that of Sir Henry Lee and his mistress Ann Vavasour, whose tomb bore the inscription—

"Underneath this stone entombed lies a fair and worthy dame,
Daughter to Henry Vavasour, Ann Vavasour her name.
She living with Sir Henry Lee, for love long time did dwell;
Death could not part them, but here they rest within one cell."

She shared the fate of Fair Rosamond at Godstow, and was disintombed and turned out by the bishop of the diocese. This was the Sir Henry Lee of Elizabeth's time, who lived in the great mansion of the Lees at Quarrendon (now entirely destroyed); but was confounded by Sir W. Scott with a 2nd Sir H. Lee of Charles I., and was introduced by him into the novel of 'Woodstock.' He received a visit of 2 days from Elizabeth at Quarrendon, and afterwards lived to a great age, in retirement, at Lee's Rest, but was at length so pleased by a visit from James I., who presented a ring to Mrs. Vavasour, that he was induced to go again to court, and died from the exertion. Here were born the Saxon saints Edburg and Eaditha, daughters of Frewald lord of the county. Edburg gave her name to Adderbury, Ellesborough, and to the Burg, afterwards Burgfield, at Quarrendon.

They were first buried at Aylesbury, but Edburg was afterwards removed to Edburton in Suffolk. Cressy's 'Church History' mentions 7 English saints of this name. St. Osyth was her niece, and was abbess of Chich in Essex, but was beheaded here in 600, by Ingvar and Hubba, 2 Danish pirates, and was buried at Aylesbury. She was familiarly called St. Sythe, and was much revered. "In those dayes when they went to bed they did rake up the fire and make a + in the ashes, and pray to God and St. Sythe to deliver them from fire and from water and from all misadventure."—*Aubrey*, 113 v.

rt., just before reaching (44 m.) *Hardwick*, is the dreary house of *Lilies* (Dr. Connel), built on the site of an ancient nunnery, whose ch. occupied the position of the present kitchen garden. This was the property of the late Lord Nugent, who wrote the 'Legends of Lilies.'

45 m. *Whitchurch*. The Ch. has a fine E. Eng. door in the tower; chancel Dec., with sedilia and remains of rich Dec. screen-work.

[1. 3 m. *North Marston*, a remarkably fine ch.; the chancel rich and good Perp.; fine oak stalls, with panelling. The S. aisle is Dec., and contains a piscina, a window with a niche on each side, and a squint, all profusely decorated with the four-leaved flower. The E. window and reredos were erected by the queen to the memory of John Camden Neild, Esq., who died 1852, leaving his immense fortune to her. Near them is the curious monument of Mr. John Virgin, and brasses of J. Sanders, 1602, and Elizabeth Sanders, 1613, with quaint inscriptions.

Tradition tells that the chancel was built out of offerings at the tomb of a devout rector (in 1290), Sir John Shorne, who was revered as a saint after his death, and who had

such rich offerings, that Eton College alone, which shared in the profits, lost 500*l.* per annum at the destruction of this shrine. The place became populous in consequence of pilgrimages to a well which was blessed by him. Browne Willis mentions people who remembered a sign which pointed the way "to Sir John Shorne's shrine." *Bp. Latimer*, in one of his sermons, says, "I have to tell you of the Christian man's pilgrimage, but ye shall not think that I will speak of the Popish pilgrimage, in running hither and thither, to Mr. John Shorne, or to our Lady of Walsingham." *Foxe*, in speaking of the punishments of Protestants in Bucks, says that "some were compelled to make pilgrimages to Sir John Shorne;" also, that some were forced by the oath to detest the Vicar of Wycombe, because, when he met "certain coming from Sir J. Shorne, he said they were fools, and called it idolatrous."

This sainted person was especially invoked for the ague. "If we were sycke of the pestilence we ran to Sainte Rooke; if of the ague, to Sainte Pernel or Master John Shorne."—*Michael Wood*. Many miracles were attributed to him, but his chief feat was long commemorated in the E. window of the ch. and on the wall of the Holy Well, which showed how—

"Sir John Shorne,
Gentleman born,
Conjured the Devil into a boot."

It is also alluded to in the 'Fantaisie of Idolatrie,' quoted by *Foxe* :—

"To Maister John Shorne,
That blessed man born,
For the ague to him we apply,
Whiche juggleth with a bote;
I beshrowe his herte rote
That will trust him, and it be I."

An upper chamber still remains attached to the ch. with a fireplace, and aperture into the chan-

cel, supposed to have been for the priest watching at the shrine.

In 1478 Richard Beauchamp, Dean of Windsor, obtained licence from Pope Sixtus V. to remove the shrine to Windsor, where he placed it in the Lincoln Chapel, whose windows long portrayed the history of the saint and of his squeezing the Devil into the boot. He is represented on the roodscreens of Cawston and Gateley, Norfolk, crowned with a nimbus. The village of Schorne near Rochester is probably called after him. There was also an image of him at Canterbury, alluded to in an old poem of the 16th centy., by John Heywood.

"I am a palmer, as you see,
Which of my life I much have spent."

At Saint Davies, and at Saint Denkos,
At Saint Matthew, and at Saint Mark in
Venice,
At Maister John Shorne in Canterbury."

At the bottom of the village is "Sir John Shorne's Well," which never fails all the year round; and is said to have been supplied by the sainted rector, who struck his staff into the ground on that spot, in answer to the prayers of his congregation in a time of drought.

46 m. rt. *Creslow Pastures*, from the time of Elizabeth to Charles II. royal feeding-grounds for cattle destined for the royal tables. They are still of extraordinary fertility; and one of them, "the great pasture," contains 327 acres. The original name was Christ Low or Christ's Meadow; one of the largest pastures is still called Heaven's Low.

The *Manor-house* is a very picturesque and remarkable building; "the original parts, Edward III., including the crypt and tower; alterations 15th centy., of which period a pointed doorway remains; great alterations temp. Charles I., of which plaster ceilings and square windows remain." In 1120 the

manor was given to the Knights Templars, from whom it passed to the Knights of St. John, who had the privilege of giving rites of sepulture when the rest of the kingdom was under interdict, so that many illustrious persons were probably buried in the chapel. After their dissolution it remained among the crown demesnes till 1673. In 1635 it was granted to Cornelius Holland the regicide, called by Browne Willis "a miscreant upstart," and said by him to have been born in a neighbouring cottage. At the restoration, when he was attainted for high treason, it reverted to the Crown, and in 1662 was granted to Sir T. Clifford, to whose successor, Lord Clifford, it was conveyed in 1673.

At the W. corner of the house is an octagonal turret with walls 6 ft. thick. Beneath is a crypt with a beautifully groined ceiling cut in the solid rock. Near it is another cellar called "the Dungeon," without windows, and with a massive stone roof. It is still filled with skulls and other human bones, some of which are said to be those of prisoners immured here. Above is the dining-room! From these cellars a subterranean passage leads to the great pasture. Several of the rooms have beautiful Gothic details. In the hall are stucco ornaments (including the Tudor rose and fleur-de-lis), said to have been placed there by order of Elizabeth when the house was preparing for one of her progresses. One of the rooms has its ghost, in a silk dress, supposed to be that of Rosamond Clifford.

Close to the house are the picturesque remains of the chapel desecrated by Cornelius Holland. The N. wall retains its beautiful doorway of transition from Norm. to E. E.

[rt. 4 m. is *Wing*, which was one of the manors said to have been

forfeited by the Hampdens, in consequence of a blow received by the Black Prince when on a visit with Edward III. at Great Hampden:—

"Tring, Wing, and Ivinghoe,
Hampden did foregoe,
For striking of a blow,
And glad he did escape so."

The *Ch.* is remarkable; the arcades between the nave and aisles are E. Norm., and the chancel is a polygonal apse with a crypt beneath. The monuments of the Dormers, once lords of the manor, are fine: Sir Robert Dormer, 1552; Sir William Dormer (in gilt armour), 1575; and Robert 1st Lord Dormer, 1617. A brass, 1648, has a very curious inscription to "Old Thomas Cotes, sometime porter at Ascott Hall."]

47 m. 1½ m. l. is *Hogston*, whose ch. has a mutilated effigy, supposed to be William de Bermingham, 1342, who founded a chantry here.

[1. 3 m. is *Stewkley*, whose ch. is the most interesting in the county from its great antiquity. "It has been generally called *Saxon*, but has nothing to distinguish it from many well-known Norm. churches." —*Rickman*. It has a short square tower between the nave and chancel, the upper part of which is surrounded by rows of small pillars and interlaced circular arches. The roof of the chancel is groined with zigzag mouldings. The W. front is very rich; the great door, which is circular with zigzag mouldings, has figures of dragons within the arch. The inhabitants of all the villages in this neighbourhood are employed as straw-platters. Near this is the supposed source of the Thame.]

51 m. *Winslow* (*Inn*: Bell), a market town of 1333 Inhab., with a Perp. ch. Here there is a stat. on the Bletchley and Oxford Railway (Rte. 14). The ch. of St. Lawrence is Perp. The white poppy is cultivated here for making opium.

55 m. *Padbury*, the scene of a

skirmish in 1643 between Sir C. Lucas and Col. Middleton.

57½ m. **BUCKINGHAM.** *Inn:* White Hart—very bad. Rlys. to Bletchley and Wolverton, to Oxford and Banbury. The direct road hence to Banbury avoids Brackley and saves about 6 m. This town, which stands on the l. bank of the Ouse, though a county town, is inferior in pop. and extent to Aylesbury, having only 4020 Inhab., and has the reputation of being the most uninteresting town in England. The hideous *ch.* (1784) is on the mount of the ancient castle. In the former old *ch.* was discovered the coffin of St. Rumbald, who had once a shrine here. The story of this saint is that he lived only 3 days, during which time he discoursed largely, says Fuller, "of all the commonplaces of popery;" was baptised and bequeathed his body to King's Sutton, his birthplace, for 1 year; to Brackley for 2 years; and then to Buckingham for ever. He was much revered in Kent, his chief shrine being at Boxley, where there was an image of St. Rumbald, which was pretended to be "a touchstone of chastity," only to be lifted by those who had never sinned in thought or deed. A pleasant *terrace walk* surrounds the present *ch.*, which contains an altarpiece—a copy of Raffaele's Transfiguration. The spire has a good effect at a distance, overtopping the other buildings. In the marketplace is the *Gaol*, mimicking a Gothic castle. The *Grammar School* is enclosed by ancient walls, with a Norm. doorway, and was the chapel of a guild of the Holy Trinity, founded by St. Thomas à Becket. A house called *Lambards* is curious. The original mansion was once the residence of Queen Catherine of Arragon. The present house, built 1611, was occupied by Prince Rupert in 1642, who was near being taken *prisoner* when going to *ch.* from

thence on Sunday morning. Charles I. took up his quarters here for one night, June 22, 1645. It is called the Capital House, and the "King's Chamber" is still shown.

The ancient residence of the Prebendary of Bucks, with a crooked chimney (1611), is curious. In an older house on this spot Queen Elizabeth dined in August 1568, on her way to Bicester.

1 m. W. is *Tingewick*, where there is on the chancel wall a very curious brass of Erasmus Williams, rector in 1608. He is surrounded by his musical, astronomical, and geometrical instruments, with a facetious epitaph. 3 and 4 m. S. of this are several interesting churches: *Preston Bissett*, uniform good Dec.; *Chetwode*, an ancient conventual *ch.* belonging to a priory of Augustine monks, founded here 1244—chancel very fine E. E., with some old stained glass, the E. window having 5 lancets; and *Hillesdon*, entirely Perp. and fine, especially the S. porch, and vestry turret with a lantern top. From the study of this *ch.* Scott the architect first obtained his knowledge of Gothic architecture.

Further S. is *Twyford*, with a monument of a crusader, supposed to be Sir John Giffard, and curious brasses of the Giffards and John Guerdon, rector, 1413.

At Thornborough, 5 m. E. of Buckingham, is a large barrow, opened in 1839, when some curious bronze and gold relics of Roman origin were discovered. It is attributed to Aulus Plautius, who is said to have lost 2 generals here.

2 m. E. *Maidsmorton Ch.* is a very beautiful specimen of Perp., founded, according to tablet in the interior, by "sisters and maids, daughters to Lord Pruet," 1450. The tower windows are enriched with arrow-headed cusps; the N. porch has a fan-tracery vault; the W. door is very curious, "a projecting panelled bat-

lement supported by rich fan-tracery springing from the jamb mouldings." (P.) The font, the Gothic screen, the roof of chancel with remains of colour, and 3 sedilia with a painting of the Last Supper deserve notice.

Close to Buckingham are the gates of *Stowe*, the nominal seat of the Duke of Buckingham, once the most magnificent mansion in the county, but the treasures are now dispersed and the interior dismantled. An avenue 2 m. long leads from the town over 2 swelling hills to the park, which is entered by a simple and stately Corinthian arch, 60 ft. high, designed by M. Pitt, Lord Camelford. From this point the house is well seen, consisting of a centre faced with a portico, flanked by 2 wings, the total length of the façade being 916 ft.

Neither the house nor pleasure-grounds of Stowe are ever shown to the public.

The *Gardens of Stowe* were perhaps the finest example of landscape gardening in this country. They were originally laid out by Sir Rich. Temple, Viscount Cobham, the friend of Pope, who thus alludes to them in the *Moral Essays* :—

"Still follow sense, of every part the soul;
Parts, answering parts, shall slide into a whole;
Spontaneous beauties all around advance;
Start even from difficulty, strike from chance;
Nature shall join you, Time shall make it grow
A work to wonder at—perhaps a *Stowe*."

"In the grounds of *Stowe* Thomson drew fresh inspiration for his amended 'Seasons':—

'O lead me to the wide-extended walks
And fair majestic paradise of *Stowe*!
Not Persian Cyrus on Ionia's shores
E'er saw such sylvan scenes; such various art
By genius fir'd, such ardent genius tam'd
By cool, judicious art; that in the strife
All-beauteous Nature fears to be outdone.'

"In these 'Elysian Vales' the great Lord Chatham when a young
[B. B. & O.]

man acquired his early love of liberty; here Capability Brown filled the office of kitchen-gardener, and caught that taste for landscape-gardening of which he has left so many memorable examples; here Congreve and Vanbrugh were frequent visitors; here Pope delighted to think down hours to moments; and here Horace Walpole occasionally stayed on state occasions."

These pleasure-grounds have an extent of not less than 700 acres. On entering you are first struck by the broad expanse of a lake—

"The vast parterres a thousand hands shall make—
Lo! Cobham comes, and floats them with a lake!"—

beyond which appears the house; while amidst the graceful foliage of trees of noble growth, and many varieties of species, peer forth various ornamental buildings and temples. The most remarkable of these are the Temple of Ancient Virtue, surrounded by a circular colonnade, containing statues by *Scheemaker* of Socrates, Homer, Lycurgus, and Epaminondas, with Latin inscriptions by George Lord Lyttelton. Near it rises a cedar-tree, 22 ft. in girth; the rostral column to Capt. Grenville, who fell in a sea-fight against the French, under Lord Anson, 1747.

The monument to Capt. Cook is in the Temple of British Worthies, situated at a point surnamed the Elysian Fields, watered by a dark pool called the River Styx. "The Temple of Venus at *Stowe*," says Walpole, "has simplicity and merit." It is by *Kent*. The *Queen's Temple*, in honour of Queen Charlotte, 1789, contains a Roman tessellated pavement, found at Foxcote near Buckingham in 1844. The Gothic temples command a fine view. There are also a column, 115 ft. high, surmounted by a statue of Lord Cobham; a grotto; and one or two puny cascades. The Palladian

Bridge, resembling that at Wilton, is a fine architectural structure, with a roof supported by a colonnade. The *Temple of Friendship* was erected by Lord Cobham to receive the busts of his political friends (all sold in 1849). Before the temple was finished the party was entirely broken up. H. Walpole says, "The Temple of Friendship, in which, among 20 memorandums of quarrels, is the bust of Mr. Pitt. Mr. James Greville is now in the House, whom his uncle disinherited for attachment to that very Pylades. He broke with Mr. Pope, who is deified in the Elysian Fields, before the inscription for his head was finished. That of Sir John Barnard, which was bespoke by the name of a bust of my Lord Mayor, was, by a mistake of the sculptor, done for Aldermen Perry. I have no patience at building and planting a satire."—(1753.)

The *Gothic Temple* is somewhat of carpenter's Gothic, though praised by Horace Walpole. "In the heretical corner of my heart I adore the Gothic building, which by some unusual inspiration Gibbs has made pure, beautiful, and venerable. The style has a propensity to the Venetian or Mosque Gothic, and the great column near makes the whole put one in mind of St. Mark's at Venice! The windows are throughout consecrated with painted glass, most of it from the Priory at Warwick."

The *Bourbon Tower* is surrounded by trees planted by Louis XVIII. and the exiled French princes on a visit to Stowe 1808. In front of the *Temple of Concord and Victory* (erected to record the glories of the Seven Years' War, by Lord Cobham) young oaks were planted by Queen Victoria, during her visit to Stowe, January 1845, and 2 cedars by Prince Albert. "There is a charming flower-garden, thickly surrounded by high trees, firs, cedars,

evergreens, and flowering shrubs." Horace Walpole gives an amusing account of the visit of the Princess Amelia to Stowe:—"We all of us, giddy young creatures of near three-score, supped in a grotto in the Elysian Fields, and were refreshed with rivers of dew and gentle showers that dripped from all the trees, and put us in mind of the heroic ages when kings and queens were shepherds and shepherdesses, and lived in caves, and were wet to the skin two or three times a day." Again, "On Wednesday night a small Vauxhall was acted for us in the grotto in the Elysian Fields, which was illuminated, as were the thickets and two little barks on the lake. The idea was pretty; but as my feelings have lost something of their romantic sensibility, I did not quite enjoy such an entertainment *al fresco* as I should have done 20 yrs. ago. The evening was more than cool, and the destined spot anything but dry. There were not half lamps enough, and no music but an old militia-man who played cruelly on a kind of tabor and pipe. As our procession descended the vast flight of steps into the garden, in which was assembled a crowd of people from Buckingham and the neighbouring villages to see the Princess and the show, the moon shining very bright, I could not help laughing as I surveyed the troop, which, instead of tripping lightly to such an Arcadian entertainment, were hobbling down by the balustrade, wrapped up in great-coats and cloaks for fear of catching cold."—*W. to G. Montague*, July 7, 1770.

"Every acre brings to one's mind some instances of the parts or pedantry, of the taste or want of taste, of the ambition or love of fame, of greatness or miscarriage, of those who have inhabited, decorated, planned, or visited the place—Pope, Congreve, Vanbrugh, Kent, Gibbs,

Lord Cobham, Lord Chesterfield, the mob of nephews, the Lytletons, Grenvilles, Wests, Leonidas Glover, Wilkes, the late Prince of Wales, the King of Denmark, Princess Amelia; and the profound monuments of Lord Chatham's services, now enshrined there, then anathematized there, and now again commanding there; with the Temple of Friendship like the Temple of Janus, sometimes open to war and sometimes shut up in factious cabals: all these images crowd upon one's memory, and add visionary personages to the charming scenes, that are so enriched with fanes and temples that the real prospects are little less than visions themselves."

The famous sale of all the Art-Treasures at Stowe (Aug. 1848), by Messrs. Christie and Manson, which occupied about 34 days, was perhaps the most remarkable sale of a private collection ever known, far superior even to those of Fonthill and Strawberry Hill; things having obtained a nominal value ever since merely from the fact of having been bought here. It was especially rich in magnificent Sèvres and Majolica ware. Among the most interesting objects sold were the inkstand of Sixtus V.; the travelling organ of James II., which had afterwards belonged to the Duke of Wharton; a table given by Villiers Duke of Buckingham to the Countess of Shrewsbury; the famous Chandos portrait of Shakspeare; celebrated miniature of Charles II., by *Cooper*; Queen Anne's toilette glass; ivory chairs of Tippoo Saib given by Warren Hastings to Queen Charlotte; and the statue of the marine Venus from the baths of Agrippa.

At *Luffield*, on the N. of Stowe Park, were the ruins of a Benedictine Abbey, founded 1124, now destroyed.

27 m. on l. 1 m. is *Water-Stratford*, where lived 1674-93 John Mason, who was firmly persuaded

himself, and persuaded multitudes, that he was the Elias to proclaim the second advent of Christ. His followers continued to exist till 1740, and so firmly believed in his resurrection, that it was found necessary to open his grave and expose his body to public view.

The *ch.* has a very remarkable Norm. doorway ornamented with a figure of our Saviour, in an oval compartment, supported by two angels.

31 m. the road enters Northamptonshire and reaches *Brackley*.

ROUTE 12.

AYLESBURY TO BICESTER.

16½ m.

This road is supposed to follow the line of the ancient Akeman Street.

4 m. l. 2 m. *Upper Winchendon* (the hill of springs, from Wynchen, springs, and Don, an eminence). *Over Winchendon House* was the residence of the unprincipled Philip Duke of Wharton—

"Wharton, the scorn and wonder of our days,
Whose ruling passion was the lust of praise;
Born with whate'er could win it from the
wise,
Women and fools must like him, or he
dies." *Pope.*

The house and its splendid gardens were destroyed, 1760, by Charles, 2nd

Duke of Marlborough. In the ch. is the brass of Sir J. Stodel, vicar.

2 m. S. is *Lower Winchendon House* (T. T. Barnard, Esq.), built by Sir John Dauncy, temp. Hen. VIII., which contains some old pictures; among them a very curious one of Lady Wharton and her sons. One small panelled room is inscribed with texts of Scripture. The ch. contains some old brasses.

Near this is the ch. of Ashendon, containing the tomb of a Crusader. Here a battle between Edmund and Canute is supposed to have been fought about 1016, when "Eadnoth Bishop of Dorchester was slain and barbarously mangled." But there is some doubt whether this happened at Ashendon, in Bucks, or Ashdown, in Kent.

Eythorpe, in the parish of Waddesdon, was the old manor of the Dormers. The curious old house was destroyed 1810. Only some of the offices remain.

2 m. rt. is *Quainton*, celebrated for its fossils. The ch. has a screen with 8 coloured figures of saints, and some good brasses of John Spence, rector, 1485, and Johane Plesh, 1360. In the chancel are the monuments of the Dormers; a fine one of Judge Dormer, who died of grief 1726, for the death of his only son. The death-bed of the son, Fleetwood Dormer, is represented on the tomb, with the parents in agonies of grief. The Winwood aisle contains the tomb of Richard Winwood (who founded the almshouses close by), his wife, and her 3 nieces, 1688.

In this parish is *Doddershall Hall* (G. Pigott, Esq.), an interesting old house, built 1639, containing much old furniture and carving. The stone hall and the library have curious oak cornices decorated with monsters. "The Brown Hall" is almost entirely oak, and has a remarkable recess for the fireplace.

Among the portraits is one believed to be Christobella, Lady Saye and Sele, who lived here, and boasted that she had married her first husband for love, her second for riches, and her third for honour. Some verses written in her honour with a diamond, by Pope, long remained on one of the windows of the house.

6 m. *Waddesdon*, from the brook called Wade. The ch. has the tomb of Guy Carleton, 1608, with an interesting epitaph.

7½ m. 2 m. S. *Wootton Underwood*. The ch. has brasses of the Grenvilles, 1587. The house, with a staircase painted by Sir J. Thornhill, was burnt 1820. The present mansion (Marquis of Chandos) was built from the ruins.

[3 m. S. is *Brill*, situated on an eminence in the ancient Bernwood Forest, on the borders of Oxfordshire and Bucks, with a magnificent view. Here Edward the Confessor had a hunting-lodge, and here Henry II. kept his court in 1160 (when Becket attended him as Chancellor) and 1162, and Henry III. in 1224.

In Nov. 1642 Charles I. placed troops here under Sir G. Gerard, who repulsed a Parliamentary attack under John Hampden. The Earl of Essex, writing to the Speaker, April 24, 1643, says, "The King is concentrating his forces, P. Maurice is arrived, and P. Rupert hourly expected at Brill." When Reading was reduced, this garrison was withdrawn.

Brill Pottery has been made from the soil of the hill even from Roman times, but the trade is no longer flourishing. The grove of trees near the town may be a relic of Bernwood Forest.

At the foot of the hill (and within an easy drive of Oxford) lie the picturesque remains of *Bourstall Tower*, so named from a boar which

interrupted the sport of the Confessor, and was slain here by one Nigel, who received the manor as a reward on tenure of a horn, which still exists in the possession of the present owner. The Gatehouse still remains, and is moated, with battlements and chimneys, and doors set with iron plates and studs. It wears a dismal aspect of desolation and decay. Near it is the *Ch.*, a Perp. building, containing some monuments of the Aubreys, long lords of the manor, connected with one of whom is a melancholy story, which adds to the interest of the place. This was an important post, during the Civil Wars, between Aylesbury and Oxford. In 1644 it was taken for the King by Colonel Gage, who battered it from the *ch.*, when the Lady of Boarshall, Lady Denham, escaped in disguise by a secret passage.

The garrison left here did much good service, "not only in defending Oxford from mischievous incursions, but did very near support itself by the contributions it drew from Bucks, besides the prey it frequently took from the very neighbourhood of Aylesbury."—*Clarendon*. In 1645 Fairfax was beaten off in an attempt to take "this poor house, with loss, and very little to his honour." Lipscombe gives the curious correspondence relative to the siege and a picture of the house in 1695.

1 m. E. is *Dorton*, where there is a chalybeate spa. At *Chilton House* (Rev. G. Chetwode), 1 m. further S., an embattled porch remains, with the inscription "Jehovah turris mea." The *ch.* contains the tomb of Sir J. Croke and his wife, 1611; his figure in plate-armour, their children kneeling in front.

Wormenhall Ch., 4 m. further S., has a very curious brass of Philip King and his family, 1592. "Wormenhall gave the Church 2 Bishops (John King Bp. of London, and Henry King Bp. of Chichester), who

were born in the same house and in the same room."—*Fuller*.]

10 m. rt. 1 m. the place celebrated in the old Buckinghamshire rhyme as,—

"Grendon Underwood,
The dirtiest town that ever stood."

Aubrey declares that Shakespeare picked up some of the humour in his 'Midsummer Night's Dream' from the constable, when passing a night here on his way to London. The *ch.* contains some monuments of the Pigott family.

1.1 m. *Ludgershall*, King Ludd's Hall, is said to have been a retreat selected by Henry II. for Fair Rosamund, who is still commemorated by a lane in the woods called "Rosamund's Way."

12 m. The road enters Oxfordshire, 4 m. from Bicester.

ROUTE 13.

TRING TO ROADE. LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.

27 m.

2½ m. After leaving Tring the railway enters Bucks.

2 m. 1. is *Drayton Beauchamp*, where the judicious Hooker was rector, 1584, and "behaved himself so as to give no occasion of evil,

but in much patience, in afflictions, in anguishes, in necessities, in poverty, and no doubt in long suffering, yet troubling no man with his discontents and wants.' When 2 of his pupils went to Drayton to see him they found him with a book in his hand (it was the 'Odes' of Horace), he being then tending his small allotment of sheep in a common field; which he told his pupils he was forced to do, for that his servant was then gone home to dine, and assist his wife to do some necessary household business. When his servant returned and released him, his 2 pupils attended him unto his house, where their best entertainment was quiet company, which was presently denied them; for Richard was called to rock the cradle; and their welcome was so like this, that they staid but next morning, which was time enough to discover and pity their tutor's condition; and having in that time remembered and paraphrased on many of the innocent recreations of their younger days, and, by other such like diversions, given him as much present pleasure as their acceptable company and discourse could afford him, they were forced to leave him to the company of his wife, and seek themselves a quieter lodging. But at their parting from him, Mr. Cranmer said, 'Good Tutor, I am sorry your lot is fallen in no better ground as to your parsonage; and more sorry your wife proves not a more comfortable companion, after you have wearied your thoughts in your restless studies.' To whom the good man replied, 'My dear George, if saints have usually a double share in the miseries of this life, I, that am none, ought not to repine at what my wise Creator hath appointed for me; but labour, as indeed I do daily, to submit to his will, and possess my soul in patience and peace.'"—*Walton's Life of Hooker.*

In the E. window of the *Ch.* are 8 figures of apostles in good old stained glass; the chancel contains the large white marble monument of Lord Newhaven, 1728, and 2 fine brasses; that attributed to William Cheyne had lost the Christian name when Browne Willis visited the ch., 1712, but still bears the date 1375. The other, assigned to Thomas Cheyne, is c. 1450. The moat of the old manor-house of the Cheynes still remains.

rt. 2 m. the wooded hill of *Ashridge Park* (Earl Brownlow), a peninsula of Bucks running into Herts, the house indeed being in Bucks, but the stables and offices in Herts. The park, which abounds in deer, is wild and beautiful, and contains many fine old trees. On the opposite side it slopes abruptly to the valley, and there is a fine view over the country. Box flourishes here in great abundance.

Here was the palace of Edmund Plantagenet Earl of Cornwall, who founded a monastery here, 1283, for the order of Bonhommes, imported by him out of the S. of France (they had only 2 other houses in England, at Bristol, and Edington in Wilts). He secured their fortunes by presenting them with a relic of great value, a portion of the blood of Christ, with which he had previously endowed his former foundation at Hailes in Gloucestershire. "By the blood of Christ which is in Hailes" was long a national oath, and it proved a mine of wealth to Ashridge, being a great object of pilgrimage. This blood was publicly exhibited by the Bp. of Rochester at Paul's Cross, Feb. 24, 1538, and proved to be only honey clarified and coloured. At Ashridge the Earl of Cornwall died, and there his bowels and heart were buried, but his body was sent to Hailes. The praises of Ashridge were sung by Skelton:—

"The Bonehommes at Asheridge beside
Barcanstede,
Where the sange royal is, Christis blode
so rede.
A plesanter place than Asheridge is, harde
were to finde,
As Skelton rehearseth with words few and
playne,
In his distich made in verses twayne:
Fraxinus in clivo frondetque vivet sine
rivo
Non est sub divo, similis sine flumine
vivo."

Here Edward I. kept his Christmas 1290, and held a parliament here, to the great distress of the neighbourhood, which was obliged to furnish the provisions of the court. Here Elizabeth frequently resided as princess, having received a grant of the place in 1552; and here she was taken prisoner by Hastings, Cornwall, and Southwell, on suspicion of being concerned in Sir T. Wyatt's conspiracy, and, being confined to her bed by illness, was carried away in the Queen's litter, her captors having said that they "would take her either dead or alive."

The Collegiate Ch., which contained the tombs of Chief Justice Bryan, Sir Thomas and Sir John Denham, and other notable persons, was destroyed temp. Eliz., but the Great Hall and Cloisters were entire till 1800, when the hall, which had a rich Gothic roof and pointed windows, was sold piecemeal by the Earl of Bridgewater; and the cloisters, which were richly adorned with frescoes and carving, so suffered by the removal of the other buildings that it was found necessary to remove them also. Nothing now remains of the monastery but the ancient crypt. The new mansion, from designs of Wyatt, "is a varied and irregular line of towers and battlements, arched doorways, mulioned windows, corbels, and machicolations, with a massive turreted centre, fine Gothic porch, and beautifully proportioned spire, surmounting the chapel."

The Hall is adorned by statues

of the founders and benefactors of the ancient monastery. The Chapel is considered the masterpiece of Wyatt; its windows are filled with fine old German stained glass. Here is the fine brass of Sir John Swynshide, 1390, which properly belongs to the ch. of Edlesborough, of which he was rector, and whence it has been carried off.

Among the pictures are—the Death of Hippolytus, *Rubens*; Holy Family (much injured), *Luini*; Feast of the Cranes, *Snyders*; 3 Cæsars, *Titian*; the Nativity, *Giov. Bellini*. In the hall is a fine work of *Luca della Robbia*.

E. are the villages of Great and Little Gaddesden, so called from the river Gade, which rises near the former.

36½ m. Cheddington Junc. Stat., whence there is a branch of 7 m. to Aylesbury. (See Rte. 11.)

1. on a hill, the stately many-towered mansion of *Mentmore* (Baron A. de Rothschild), designed by Sir Joseph Paxton and G. H. Stokes, built of Ancaster stone, partly in the style of John Thorpe's magnificent house of Woolaton, Notts. Its interior is chiefly remarkable for the fine collection of Majolica ware which it contains.

[3 m. S.S.W. the fine cruciform ch. and low spire of *Ivinghoe* rise picturesquely at the foot of the oddly-shaped chalk hills. In the chancel is an effigy in priest's robes, known by the inhabitants as "Grandfather Greybeard." It has been believed to be Henry of Blois, brother of King Stephen, who is said to have resided at *Berrysted House* near this, but he was really buried at Winchester (see *Gough*), and it is more probably Peter de Chaceport, Rector of Ivinghoe, 1241-54, the reputed founder of the present ch. The nave and chancel are of his time. There is a brass to John and Alice Hungerford, 1534, and some

fine wood carving on the roof. The neighbouring nunnery of *St. Margaret's* (of which nothing remains but some inequalities in the turf, marking the site) was also attributed to Henry of Blois, but was really founded by his successor, Giffard Bp. of Winchester. The view from the hills above the village is very fine, and there is a wild and striking drive of 3 m. to *Edlesborough*, whose finely situated ch. contains some old stalls and brasses to the families of Brugs, 1647, and Rufford, 1540.]

40½ m. *Leighton Buzzard Junc. Stat.* Trains 4 times a day to Dunstable and Luton. For Leighton Buzzard, see *Handb. for Beds.*

2 m. N.W. is *Liscombe House* (Capt. Lovett)—not shown—a castellated Elizabethan mansion, much spoilt by whitewash, which has been in the possession of the Lovetts for 600 yrs. The desecrated chapel has some windows of the 14th centy. The pictures include portraits of Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk; the 1st Earl of Bedford, 1555; the Earl of Strafford; Sir Nicholas Crispe; Sir Edmund Verney, standard-bearer of Charles I., slain at Edgehill; Archbishop Sancroft; Titus Oates, &c.

2 m. W. is the celebrated Norman ch. of *Stewkley*. (See Rte. 11.)

42 m. Linslade tunnel.

rt. is the Bow Brickhill, 683 ft. in height, and the 3 villages of *Brickhill*, described in the popular rhyme—

"Here stand three *Brickhills* all in a row,
Great *Brickhill*, Little *Brickhill*, and *Brick-*
hill of the Bow."

1. 1 m. *Newton Longueville*, so called from a priory which once existed there, a cell of the Abbey of *St. Faith* at *Longueville* in Normandy. There is a statue of *St. Faith* on the outside of the ch.

46½ m. *Bletchley Junction Stat.* Branch lines to Bedford, Oxford,

Worcester, Buckingham, and Banbury. The fine Gothic ch. has the tomb of Richard Lord Grey de Wilton, 1442, who is buried here with his son and grandson; and a curious tablet to Dr. Sparke, rector in 1616.

rt. 1 m. is *Fenny Stratford*, once remarkable for its inns, being the old highway to London, whose chapel, dedicated to St. Martin, contains, beneath the altar, the grave of Browne Willis the antiquary, and was built (1724) by him in memory of his grandfather, whose portrait he placed over the entrance, with some verses to his memory.

N.E. of Fenny Stratford are some interesting churches. *Walton* has monuments of Bartholomew Beale, 1660; Sir Thomas Pinfold, 1701, with a medallion by *Nollekins*; and Elizabeth Pixe, 1617, with the epitaph,—

"Elizabetha vale, mea lux, mea vita, quousque,
Jungitur in cœlis, filia cara vale."

Milton Keynes has the tomb of Lewis Atterbury, rector, 1693, father of Bishop Atterbury, who was born here 1662. *Crawley* is a fine Gothic edifice, dedicated to St. Firmin, the patron of a monastery which once existed here. The rood-loft remains, and the richly-decorated Gothic screen. The chancel was built by Peter de Guildford, rector, 1321, which is commemorated by the inscription outside:—

"Petrus cancellum tibi dat Firmine novellum,
Et cum lauderis Deo, Petri memoreris."

51 m. 1. are the remains of *Bradwell Abbey*, founded in the reign of Stephen, now a farm-house.

52½ m. *Wolverton Stat.*

4½ W. *Stony Stratford*, on the Ouse (Pop. 1757). Here was one of the crosses of Queen Eleanor, wife of Edward I., destroyed 1646. Here also the young Edward V. was seized by Richard Duke of Gloucester, who at the same time ar-

rested Sir Richard Grey and Sir Thomas Vaughan.*

N. of this is *Haversham Ch.*, containing the fine Gothic tomb of Lady Clinton, 1422.

S.E. is *Beauchampton*, where the Bennetts long had a manor, of which the great hall still remains. The ch. contains the tomb of Sir Simon Bennett, benefactor of University College, Oxford.

[4 m. N.E. of Wolverton—passing on the l. *Stanton Barry Ch.*, which contains a richly-ornamented Norm. arch between the nave and chancel—is *Newport Pagnel (Inns: Swan; Anchor. Pop. 3569)*. The ch. is a large Gothic edifice. The churchyard contains an epitaph by Cowper on Thomas Abbott Hamilton, 1788. Lace is made here in great quantities.

5 m. N. of Newport, in a dreary plain, only enlivened by the windings of the Ouse, is *Olney (Inn: Bull)*, so celebrated as the home of Cowper the poet. The spire is conspicuous long before reaching the town, which is entered by a bridge of four arches crossing the Ouse, with several smaller ones over the meadow-land flooded in winter, which is alluded to by Cowper in the lines,—

“Hark! ’t is the twanging horn o’er yonder bridge,
That, with its wearisome but needful length,
Bestrides the wintry flood.”

rt. is the large ch. of SS. Peter and Paul, entirely Dec. The pulpit is that in which Newton and Scott the commentator preached.

“The town, the most N. in Bucks, consists of one long street, the houses built of stone, but by far the greater number thatched. At one corner of the market-place, rather taller than the surrounding houses,

* See Shakespeare, *Richard III.*, scene iv.:
“Last night I heard they lay at Stony Stratford.”

is *Cowper’s House*, ‘which wears a most desolate aspect.’ It was engaged for him in 1767 by his friend Newton (then rector), and was ‘so near the vicarage, that by opening a door in the garden-wall they could communicate without going into the street.’ Here he was induced by Newton to join with him in the authorship of the *Olney Hymns*. ‘Occurrences here are as rare as cucumbers at Christmas,’ he wrote in one of his letters, but he entered upon what he called a decided course of Christian happiness; and it was by no means unusual to find the man of trembling sensibilities praying by the sick-bed of the poorest cottager, or guiding the devotions of some miserable being who attempted to seek God only in the departing moments of existence. The town, which Cowper describes as ‘populous, and inhabited chiefly by the half-starved and ragged of the earth,’ afforded him ample facilities for usefulness. Lacemaking furnished, even to unremitting diligence, so scanty a pittance that it was barely sufficient to maintain a miserable existence. When a charitable donation enabled the poet to provide six children with one pair of blankets, ‘they jumped out of their straw, caught them in their arms, kissed them, blessed them, and danced for joy.’ The majority of the people were brutal in their manners and heathenish in their morals. Little creatures seven years of age made the place resound every evening with curses and villanous songs; the cottages were disposed in a long dreary street, and the tottering mud walls and torn thatch of many of them were in keeping with the wretchedness of the inmates. The surrounding meadows were flooded during winter; and Cowper was often doomed to sit for months over a cellar filled with water. The air in the rainy season was impregnated

with the fishy-smelling fumes of the marsh miasma; and to this he attributed the slow and spirit-oppressing fever which visited all persons who remained long in the locality. Yet none of these evils had much effect upon him during the early years of his residence. He was experiencing the truth that 'the mind is its own place,' and the social and spiritual advantages he enjoyed made Olney a heaven to him."

Cowper's Garden is behind his house, but now belongs to a different proprietor: it is however readily shown to visitors. Here is "the gravel walk, 30 yards long, which afforded but indifferent scope to the locomotive faculty, and which yet," says Cowper, "was all we had to move on for eight months in the year." Here is the house in which he kept his tame hares, his chief amusement. "They grew up under his care, and continued to interest him for nearly twelve years, when the last survivor died quietly of mere old age. He has immortalised them in Latin and in English, in verse and in prose. They have been represented in prints and cut on seals; and his account of them, which in all editions of his poems is now appended to their epitaphs, contains more observations than had ever before been contributed to the history of this inoffensive race." In this garden also is *Cowper's Summer Parlour*, concerning which he writes, "We eat, drink, and sleep where we always did; but here we spend all the rest of our time, and find that the sound of the wind in the trees and the singing of birds are much more agreeable to our ears than the incessant barking of dogs and screaming of children."

"At Olney the Ouse changes its character; and its course becomes so winding that the distance from that place to St. Neot's, which is *about* 20 m. by land, is *about* 70 m. *by the stream*. This has not escaped

Drayton in his description of this 'far wandering' river:—

"Ouse having Oulney past, as she were waxed mad,
From her first stayder course immediately doth gad,
And in meandering gyves doth whirl herself about,
That, this way, here and there, back, forward, in and out;
And like a wanton girl, oft doubling in her gait,
In labyrinth-like turns and twinings intricate,
Thro' those rich fields doth run."

"The walks here are beautiful," says Cowper, "but it is a walk to get at them. *Weston [Underwood]*, our pleasantest retreat, is 1 m. off, and there is not in that whole mile so much shade as would cover you. Mrs. Unwin and I have for many years walked thither every day when the weather would permit; and, to speak like a poet, the limes and elms of Weston can witness for us both how often we have sighed and said, 'Oh that our garden-door opened into this grove or into this wilderness, for we are fatigued before we reach them, and, when we have reached them, have not time to enjoy them.'" The state of the road was often so bad that it gave rise to the rhyme,—

"Sle, sla, slud,
Stuck in the mud,
Oh, it is pretty to wade through a flood."

Nevertheless, in Aug. 1780, Cowper and Mrs. Unwin thankfully removed to Weston, where they lived in a house still to be seen on rt. of the village. "We dwell," wrote the poet, "in a neat and comfortable abode in one of the prettiest villages in the kingdom. It affords opportunity of walking at all seasons, abounding with beautiful grass-grounds which encompass it on all sides to considerable distance. These grounds are skirted by woods of great extent." Below, in the valley, "Ouse's silent tide" flows through the green meadows. There is a good view from "*the Cliff*,"—

" Whence Ouse, slow winding through a level plain,
Conducts the eye along her sinuous course."
Task.

Mrs. Unwin's ill-health led to the poet's removal from Weston in 1795. He had a presentiment that he should never return, and wrote on the window-shutter the two sad lines which are still to be seen there;—

" Farewell, dear scenes, for ever closed to me;
Oh! for what sorrows must I now exchange ye."
Southey's Life of Cowper, Quart. Rev.

From Olney may be visited, 1 m., *Clifton Reynes*. The *Ch.* is interesting. In the N. wall of the chancel aisle, in a canopied recess, are two very remarkable oaken effigies, supposed to be Simon and Margaret de Borard, lords of the manor, c. 1267. Under the arches between the chancel and its aisle are two fine altar-tombs. The lower tomb has two hollow oak effigies, supposed to represent Ralph de Reynes and his lady, 1310; the upper, with stone effigies of a knight and lady and their dog Bo, is believed to be that of Sir John and Lady Reynes, 1428.

Clifton was the home of Lady Austen, who, after the departure of Newton, was the great friend and comforter of Cowper in his solitude at Olney, where she eventually became an inmate of the parsonage. It was she who told him the story of John Gilpin, to rouse him from the dejection into which one day she observed him sinking, and he turned it into a poem that same evening.

2 m. N. the *Ch.* of *Lavenden* has some good Norm. details.

2 m. W. *Ravenstone Ch.* contains the magnificent tomb of the Lord Chancellor Earl of Nottingham, 1682, in his robes, under a canopy. He was remarkable for his eloquence, which gained him the appellations of the English Roscius

and the English Cicero; and he has been praised by Blackstone as a thorough master and zealous defender of the laws and constitution of his country.

3 m. S.W. of Olney is *Gayhurst*, or *Gothurst* (Lord Carington), once the home of Sir Everard Digby, famous from his part in the Gunpowder Plot conspiracy, which held its meetings in a secret chamber at Gayhurst, in consequence of which his estates should have been forfeited, if he had not taken the precaution of making them over in trust for his infant son. This son was the celebrated Sir Kenelm Digby, who was born at Gayhurst, 1604. The manor-house was built in the reign of Elizabeth, and is very interesting, though it has lately been much altered. Cowper, who came here from Olney, was in ecstasies at the beauty of the place. "The situation is happy, the gardens elegantly disposed, the hothouse in the most flourishing state, and the orange-trees the most captivating creatures of the kind I ever saw." A large edible snail, called *Pomatium*, abounds in the woods here, but is quite peculiar to the place. It was imported from the south of France by Sir Kenelm Digby, for his wife Venetia, who was in consumption. These snails are of a whitish colour, tinged with red; they bury themselves in winter, and remain torpid till spring.]

58 m. The rlyw. enters Northamptonshire.

ROUTE 14.

BLETCHLEY TO BICESTER. BRANCH
RAILWAY FROM BLETCHLEY TO
OXFORD.

This Rly. is over a flat country, and is very ugly throughout.

3 m. 1 m. rt. *Whaddon Chase*, part of Queen Jane Seymour's dowry, afterwards the seat of Arthur Lord Grey, who received a visit here from Queen Elizabeth, 1568, and is buried in the church. Richard Cox, Bishop of Ely, was born at Whaddon, 1499: and Browne Willis the antiquary resided here.

4 m. *Swanbourne Stat.*

6 m. rt. *Winslow Stat.* (see Rte. 11). Here is the junction for Buckingham (see Rte. 11) and Banbury.

9½ m. *Claydon Stat.* ½ m. l. is *Claydon House* (Sir Harry Verney, Bart.), built originally temp. Henry VII., but almost entirely rebuilt by Ralph 2nd Earl of Verney, temp. George II., with the intention of rivalling Stowe by its magnificence. Part of this second house was destroyed by Lord Verney's niece, Baroness Fermanagh: but several splendid chimney-pieces and rooms covered with ornamental stucco-work still remain, with a grand staircase inlaid with ebony and ivory, having a wrought-iron balus-

trade representing standing corn, which bends and rustles as you ascend. Among the pictures are some fine family portraits, especially that of Sir Edmund Verney, concerning whom there is a Buckinghamshire proverb that he was "neither born nor buried." In Middle Claydon ch., which stands close to the house, is his tomb, with an inscription "to the ever-honoured Sir Edmund Verney, standard-bearer to Charles I. in the memorable battle of Edgehill, where he was slain, Oct. 23, 1640," in that charge when Sir E. Balfour, with a rescue of horse, broke in upon the foot belonging to the King's army. His body was never found, but there is a tradition that one of his hands was discovered among the remains of the slain on the field of battle, and identified by a ring. Here also are many other monuments of the Verneys; and the alabaster tomb of one of the Giffards, 1539; with the brasses of Roger Giffard and Mary his wife, 1542, and Isabelle Giffard, 1523.

rt. of the Rly. is *Steeple Claydon*, where "*the Camp Barn*" bears an inscription which states that "around this spot the army of the Parliament, under the command of Cromwell, was encamped March, 1644; and on the 3rd of that month advanced from hence to the attack on Hillesdon House."

13½ m. the railway enters Oxfordshire, and reaches (17 m.) Bicester.

SECTION III.

OXFORDSHIRE.

INTRODUCTION.

THE COUNTY 133 Divisions, Rivers 133 Nature of the Country 133 Agriculture 134 Towns 134	History 134 Antiquities 135 Architecture 136 THE CITY 136 THE UNIVERSITY 138
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THE COUNTY.

OXFORDSHIRE, which takes its name from its capital Oxford, is bounded on the N. and N.W. by Warwickshire, on the N.E. by Northamptonshire, on the E. by Bucks, on the S.E., S., and S.W. by Berks, and on the W. by Gloucestershire. In form it is very irregular; its greatest length is 48 m.; and though at its centre, near Oxford, its width is only 7 m. across, a few miles higher it is 38 m., while at no point below the city is it more than 12 m.

Oxfordshire is divided from Berks by the river *Isis*, which receives all the other rivers of the county on its course—viz., 1, the *Windrush*, “the nitrous Windrush,” which rises in the Cotswold Hills in Gloucestershire, and passing Burford and Witney enters the *Isis* at Northmoor after a course of 18 m., during which it turns many mills; 2, the *Evenlode*, which enters the county from Gloucestershire, and receiving the *Glynne*, a tributary of 12 m. long, and flowing by Charlbury and Woodstock, falls into the *Isis* near Ensham, after a course within the county of 22 m.; 3, the *Cherwell*, which, rising at Charwellton in Northamptonshire, and, passing Banbury and Adderbury, flows into the *Isis* at Oxford after a course of 30 m. in the county; 4, the *Thame*, which rises at Stewkley in Bucks, and, first touching the county at Thame, falls into the *Isis* at Dorchester, 15 m. lower down; after which it takes the name of Thames. The *Oxford and Warwick Canal* enters the county at its N. extremity, and, following the course of the *Cherwell*, joins the *Isis* at Oxford.

The southern extremity of the county is varied by the range of *Chiltern Hills*, which cross it from Bucks to Berks, and whose heights were formerly covered by a forest of beech-trees, which especially flourished in their chalk soil, but the hills are now either used as sheep-walks, or occupied by arable land. The highest point is Nettlebed Hill, 820 ft., near which is Nuffield Common, 757 ft. To the E. of Oxford the ground rises perpetually, its highest point being Beckley Hill. The

N. of the county is exceedingly flat and ugly, and its endless stone walls are dreary to look upon.

The hilly lands are bleak and exposed, the winds only checked by the low stone boundaries of the fields. The poor chalky soil is late, but not unfavourable for agriculture. "The soils may be divided into four principal kinds, viz., the red land, 79,635 acres, partly grass, and partly fine arable land; the stonebrash, 164,023 acres, chiefly N. of Oxford and Witney, and on inferior soil: the Chiltern chalk, 64,778 acres, occupying the S. part of the county, and covered with light calcareous loam, which is very profitable; miscellaneous 166,400 acres."

"The course of crops on the lighter soils is the 4 years Norfolk rotation, usually lengthened to 6 years with pulse or oats, or with crops of equivalent character; and on the heavier soils, which have been drained, and lie on irretentive subsoils, it is the convertible system, or such as divides the whole arable land into moieties, under artificial grass, or other rotation crops, and consists usually of, 1, turnips, or other roots; 2, barley or oats; 3 or more years of clover and grass seed; next wheat, and finally beans."

But "the greatest glory of Oxfordshire* is its abundance of meadows and pastures." "The meadows which lie along the banks of the smaller streams generally produce excellent herbage; but those on the borders of the Thames and Cherwell are subject to floods, and an interspersion of coarse aquatic plants, which not only deteriorate the herbage, but sometimes damage the cattle which feed upon them." One may look in vain for a milkmaid throughout the county, as that office is always allotted to men or boys. Brawn is made in great quantities on the large farms.

Besides its capital, Oxfordshire contains many considerable towns—Witney, Burford, Woodstock, Chipping Norton, Banbury, Bicester, Thame, Watlington, and Henley. The principal manufactures are, blankets at Witney, plush and shag at Banbury, gloves and polished steel at Woodstock, woollen cloth, girths, and horse-cloths at Chipping-Norton, and lace in many of the villages.

Shotover Hill, near Oxford, is celebrated as supplying the best ochre in the world. Stonesfield is renowned for the multitude of fossils found in its calcareous slate. Burford afforded the sandstone of which St. Paul's Cathedral is built.

At the time of the Roman invasion Oxfordshire was inhabited by the Dobuni, who are said by Camden to have derived their name from Dwfn, a British word meaning low, as they always dwelt in the plain. The county afterwards formed part of the Roman province of Britannia Prima, the station of Durocornovium was founded where Dorchester now exists, and a military way crossed it to Alchester. In 614 the Dobuni were defeated by the West Saxons at Bampton, soon after which the King of the West Saxons, Kynigels, was (according to tradition) visited by St. Birinus, who converted him to the

* *Gardner's 'Gazetteer and Directory of Oxfordshire,'* Peterborough, 1859, is a good book, full of useful information.

Christian faith, founded the town of Bicester, and became in 638 the first bishop of Dorchester, a huge see, comprising both Mercia and Wessex. Oxford at the same time became the capital of Mercia and the residence of its kings. In 752 Cuthbred of Wessex fought and conquered Ethelbald of Mercia on Battle Edge, near Burford; after which Oxfordshire became part of the kingdom of Wessex. In the Danish invasions Oxfordshire was perpetually ravaged. Henry I. rebuilt the palace of Alfred at Woodstock, and rendered it "the first park in England enclosed by a wall." Here in 1163 Henry II. received a visit from Malcolm King of Scotland, and Rice Prince of Wales; and he rendered both Woodstock and Godstow famous by his love of Fair Rosamond. In 1275 Edward I. held a Parliament at Woodstock; and there were born Edmund of Woodstock, second son of Edward I., Edward the Black Prince, and Thomas of Woodstock, youngest son of Edward III. In the reign of Edward II. Aylmer de Valence Earl of Pembroke built the castle of Bampton. In 1387 the insurgent nobles defeated the Earl of Oxford at Radcot Bridge, on the borders of the county near Bampton. During the wars of the Roses in 1469 the Earl of Pembroke, who led the army of Edward IV., having quarrelled with the Earl of Stafford, who was also in command, was defeated by the rebels under Robin of Redesdale at Danesmoor, and was taken and put to death with his brother Sir R. Herbert and ten others. The Princess Elizabeth was imprisoned at Woodstock by Mary.

During the Civil Wars Oxfordshire was frequently a battle-scene. On October 23, 1642, the battle of Edgehill was fought on the borders of the county, the king having encamped the night before on the banks of the Cherwell, between Edgecot and Cropredy. In April, 1643, a skirmish took place on Caversham Bridge, and two months later, June 18th, the Parliamentarians were repulsed by Prince Rupert on Chalgrove Field, when the great John Hampden received the wound of which he died three weeks afterwards at Thame. In 1644 was fought the battle of Cropredy Bridge, in which Sir William Waller was defeated, after which the king drew off his troops to Deddington, where he slept at the parsonage house. In 1645 the Parliamentarians gained a victory at Islip Bridge, and Bletchington House was forced to surrender after a long and gallant defence for the King. Great Tew was the house of the "blameless Lord Falkland," who was killed in the first battle of Newbury.

Antiquities.—At Dorchester, the ancient Doricina, Roman coins and other relics have been constantly discovered. Fine tessellated Roman pavements have been found at Great Tew and Stonesfield. Between Mongewell and Nuffield is still to be seen a curious Roman vallum with an embankment $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, known as the Grime's Dyke, or Devil's Ditch. The Icknield Street crossed the county from N.E. to S.W., entering it at Chinnor, and leaving it at Goring on the Thames; the Akeman Street entered the county at Ambrosden, and passed through Chesterton, Kirtlington, Blenheim Park, and Stonesfield to Astal, where it crossed the Evenlode into Gloucestershire.

By far the most curious object of antiquity is the circle of stones and the cromlech, near Chipping Norton, known as the Rollrich stones, and considered by Bede to be the second wonder in the kingdom. Similar relics are the cromlech known as the Hoarstone at Enstone, and the scattered stones called the Devil's Quoits at Stanton Harcourt.

There are few remains of ancient castles. At Oxford there is a tower, a Norm. crypt, and a curious subterranean chamber with a well; of Wallingford only the fragment of a tower and an oriel window; of Banbury only the traces of the moat remain. Of the castle of Aylmer de Valence at Banbury, built in the reign of Edward II., there are some curious fragments, with a chamber, added temp. Henry VII., decorated with the red and white roses united. At Broughton there are some beautiful fragments of the old castle adjoining the later building.

Oxfordshire is rich in fine specimens of later domestic architecture; among which may be mentioned the manor-houses of High Lodge, near Woodstock, Asthall, Castleton, Fritwell, Burford Priory, Wroxton Abbey, the ruins of Minster Lovell, Stanton Harcourt, with its tower and almost unique kitchen, and the old Hall of Mapledurham. Besides the ecclesiastical buildings in the city of Oxford the county contains many of interest. Of the churches the most remarkable are—Norm. *Ifley*; Dec. *Kirtlington*; Perp. *Ewelme*, and its beautiful tombs; Mixed, *Adderbury*, *Bloxham*, *Broughton*, *Burford*, *Chipping Norton*, *Cogges*, *Dorchester*, *Great Tew*, *Shiplake*, *Stanton Harcourt*, and *Witney*.

The artist will delight in the banks of the river at Oxford, and in its whole course between Pangbourne and Reading; otherwise there are few good subjects for his pencil in Oxfordshire. Broughton Castle, Fritwell Manor-house, Ifley, Minster Lovell, Stanton Harcourt, and the market-house at Watlington may be mentioned as picturesque.

THE CITY.

The antiquity of the city of Oxford has been carried up to the most remote ages. John Ross, of Warwick (1491), the first antiquary of Oxfordshire, protested that it was built 100 years before the coming of the Britons, when it was called *Caer Eborac*, which name was changed to *Bellodunum*, and then to *Eborac*, the Celtic for a ford of oxen, and Oxford as British cities of the name of *Eborac*, the ancient British name of *Caer Eborac*, between two rivers, and adorned with a wall.

When Aulus Plautius, the first Roman general who invaded Britain, suffered its most terrible calamities, he was determined to prove its dominion. At the same time, by hard usage, he changed its ancient name.

In 727 Eborac

work of piety, employed himself in the construction of a convent within the precincts of the city, of which he appointed her the abbess. "In process of time, by the munificence of the King of Mercia, certain *Inns* were constructed in the vicinity of this church, adapted as much as possible to the character of a religious establishment. This is the earliest notice of Oxford as a place of religious education, and thus the university may be traced to the priory of St. Frideswide."—*Ingram*.

Alfred the Great resided at Oxford, and established a mint (supposed to have been on the site of New Inn Hall), where he coined money called *Ocsnafordia*. In 979 and 1002 Oxford was burned to the ground by the Danes. In 1009 it was again set on fire by Sweyn, King of Denmark, which was awfully avenged in the general massacre of the Danes on St. Brice's Day, when his sister Gunilda and her husband perished in the massacre. In 1015 an Anglo-Saxon *Witenagemote* was held at Oxford in the time of Edmund Ironside, who was murdered here Nov. 30, 1016. The Danes and English were reconciled at Oxford 1018, and Canute held court here for several years, and in 1022 a council, in which the laws of England were first translated into Latin, and enjoined on Danes and English alike. Harold Harefoot was elected, crowned, and died here.

In the Doomsday-Book, 1086, the name of the city is written *Oxene-ford*. After the conquest Robert d'Oyley built and fortified the Castle of Oxford, and rebuilt the walls, in order that he might keep under the Saxon population. The nephew of this Robert succeeded him, and received the empress Matilda in Oxford, where she was besieged by Stephen in 1141. When the great famine was reduced to the last extremity by famine, Matilda, dressing in white, effected her escape in a snowstorm, and crossed the river, which was frozen over, on foot to Abingdon, where she was met on horseback to Wallingford. On the following day she was crowned.

Edith, the wife of the second Robert, founded the magnificent abbey of Oseney in the city. Henry II. was born in the city. Henry III. was born in Beaumont, which was bought for a great sum of money by Henry III. In 1190 a fire destroyed the wooden houses, and the city was rebuilt in stone. In 1209 a treacherous attack was made on the citizens, when the citizens, in revenge for the attack, killed by one of their commoners, and to the city who discharged all professors a loss that, to induce them to return, the king granted a remission, "to go to all the city who were hanged, and in their shirts, and from every parish priest, repeated a mark of silver per annum to the king." During the succeeding reign a council assembled made those regulations

regarding the kingdom known as the "Provisions of Oxford"), when the number of students is said to have amounted at one time to 30,000, these town and gown hostilities became almost perpetual. The last great pilgrimage made to the shrine of St. Frideswide was that of Queen Catherine of Arragon; soon after which, 1526, it became swallowed up in the foundation of Christ Church.

THE UNIVERSITY.

The early history of the University is wrapped in obscurity. A master of University College, in 1568, published a book to prove that it was founded by certain Greek professors, who accompanied Brute to England. Others have been content with Alfred the Great as a founder, yet there is no well-authenticated history which mentions him as such, though the Annals of Winchester describe him at Oxford listening to the teaching of its earliest professors, St. Grymbald and St. Neot, teachers of theology, and Asser, the teacher of grammar and rhetoric. It is, however, certain that Oxford was a place of education as early as the reign of Edward the Confessor.

The earliest school in Oxford was probably that of the Priory of St. Frideswide, which existed on the site of Christ Church, and around which lodging-houses for students soon began to cluster, and took the name of Halls, such as Physic, Beef, Pill, Ape, and Pittance Halls. Under Henry I., who was educated here, and who built a house of Congregation; under Stephen, in whose reign Vicarius, a Lombard, founded a school of Roman law; and under Richard I., who was born here, the University continued to increase and prosper. In 1229 the disputes, which had always existed between the university and the town, became so violent that the students abandoned the place, and 1000 students of Paris, who had quarrelled with their own townspeople, came over at the invitation of Henry III., and settled at Oxford in their place. In 1260 the original Oxford students founded a new seminary at Northampton, from which, however, they were soon recalled by the entreaties of the people of Oxford, and the command of the king. At the time of the secession it is said that their number amounted to 30,000. In 1274 Walter de Merton drew up the first code of statutes, and founded Merton College, which exhibited the primary model of all the collegiate bodies in Oxford and Cambridge. Merton, Balliol, and University were founded in the 13th cent.; Exeter, Oriel, Queen's, New College during the 14th cent.; Lincoln, All Souls, Magdalen, and Brasenose in the 15th cent. During the reign of Edward III. the conflicts between the town and university again raged with fury and bloodshed. In the reign of Richard II. the university was agitated by the controversies relating to the doctrines of Wickliffe; in that of Henry VII. Erasmus came and revived the study of Greek; and in the 16th cent. Corpus, Christ Church, Trinity, St. John's, and Jesus were founded. The university vigorously upheld the cause of Charles I., and the diminished plate of its colleges still bears witness to their generosity in his behalf; it was equally stubborn in its resistance to the encroachments of James II.

The 17th cent. saw the foundation of Wadham and Pembroke; the 18th that of Worcester.

The University at present consists of 19 colleges and 5 halls; the colleges are incorporated bodies, endowed with estates and benefices, but the halls are not incorporated bodies, though enjoying the same privileges as the colleges. The University is a corporate body, known by the title of the Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Oxford. The chief officers are—the *Chancellor* (Earl of Derby), chosen for life, but only appearing upon special occasions; the *High Steward* (Earl of Carnarvon), who may be called upon to hear or determine capital causes according to the laws of the land and privileges of the University, and who holds the University Court-leet at the appointment of the chancellor or vice-chancellor; the *Vice-Chancellor*, a head of a college, nominated annually, but usually holding office for four years; the *Proctors* (distinguished by their black velvet sleeves), elected annually to attend to the discipline of the students under the degree of M.A., administrators of the discipline, and in all respects the acting magistrates. The *Visitor* of the University is supposed to be the Crown.

The constitution of the University and of the Colleges has undergone several important changes. From the chancellorship of Archbishop Laud the executive government of the University was vested in a board, consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, the two Proctors, and the Heads of Houses, called the *Hebdomadal Board*, from their weekly meetings. The colleges were governed by statutes, framed at the time of their respective founders, though materially modified in practice to meet the changes introduced into the University by the Reformation and the lapse of time. In the year 1850 a royal *Commission* was issued to report on the best means of adapting the statutes, both of the University and of the Colleges, to the wants of the present age. On this report was founded an Act of Parliament of the year 1854, which, partly by its own provisions, and partly through the operation of the Parliamentary Commission, effected the changes between the earlier and the existing state of Oxford.

Instead of the Hebdomadal Board was created a *Hebdomadal Council*, consisting of Heads of Houses, Professors, and Masters of Arts, elected by a body which had already existed in form under the name of *Congregation*, but of which the composition has been materially altered. It now consists of all the functionaries of the University, and of all resident Masters of Arts, and has the right of discussing in English the measures proposed to it by the Hebdomadal Council. These measures, when adopted by Congregation, must receive their final sanction from the governing body of the whole University, which, under the name of *Convocation*, has continued comparatively unaltered, through all the changes of the place. It consists of all Doctors and Masters, resident and non-resident, and has the right of discussing in Latin (unless on special occasions, when the Vice-Chancellor permits the use of the English language) the measures which are brought before it, and which it then finally rejects or approves. It also has the right of electing

burghesses for the University, as well as some of the Professors. The Vice-Chancellor singly, or the Proctors jointly, have a right of veto on any measure as it passes through this body. The joint veto of the Proctors has been exercised on two or three memorable occasions.

The statutes of the Colleges, under the same Act of Parliament, have been altered to meet the exigencies of the time. Restrictions of kindred and locality, by which the choice to most of the fellowships and scholarships in Oxford was fettered, have been, with a few exceptions, removed. The imposition of oaths, injurious to the public interests, has been prohibited as illegal; professorships in several instances have been endowed with the proceeds of college fellowships. All tests have been removed from the University up to the passing of the degree of B.A. The degree of M.A. is still confined to members of the Church of England.

The first *Examination* which a young man encounters is imposed, not by the University, but by the College into which he seeks admission. When he has passed this he is "matriculated" into the University itself. The University examinations which follow date in their present form from the beginning of this century, and have since passed through several modifications. The first is termed "*Responsions*," or in more popular language "*the Little Go*." The second, which consists chiefly of Scholarship and Mathematics, is called "*the First Public Examination*," or in popular language "*Moderations*." The third, which is called "*the Second Public Examination*," or in popular language "*the Great Go*," requires the passing of two out of four schools, one being necessarily Classics, the other Mathematics, Modern History and Law, or Natural Science. Both in the first and second public examinations honours are given. On having passed the last of these examinations the degree of B.A. is obtained. The degree of M.A. is conferred, without further examination, at the end of three years. It is distinctive of Oxford, as contrasted with Cambridge examinations, that they are partly carried on orally: to this part the public are admitted. Besides the honours obtained in these examinations, are several other university distinctions, such as scholarships for proficiency in the various branches of knowledge, and prizes for the composition of prose and verse. Many Professors are attached to the University, but the principal instruction given to undergraduates is within their own colleges, the University merely ordaining and directing the examinations necessary to the attainment of a degree.

The *Heads of Houses* are distinguished by various titles—those of Merton, New College, All Souls, and Wadham are *Wardens*; of University, Balliol, and Pembroke, *Masters*; of Lincoln and Exeter, *Rectors*; of Magdalen, Corpus, and St. John's, *Presidents*; of Oriel, Queen's, and Worcester, *Provosts*; of Brazenose, Jesus, and all the Halls, *Principals*; Christ Church is governed by the Dean of its cathedral church.

"It is worthy of observation that the three most remarkable religious movements of English history proceeded from Oxford—that of Wickliffe in the 14th cent., that of Wesley in the 18th, and the smaller, though not unimportant one of Tractarianism in our own day."

The well-known words of Lowth and Sir William Jones are a faithful representation of the feeling of the sons of Oxford towards their ancient mother; of Lowth, when he glories in the reproach of a connexion which "he has always esteemed his greatest advantage and highest honour;" of Sir W. Jones when he speaks of "the beloved streets of Oxford as the haven in which, when his course was run, he should, in his declining years, take refuge."

ROUTES.

* * * The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
15 Didcot to <i>Cropredy</i> , by OXFORD [<i>Ifley</i>], <i>Godstow</i> , [<i>Shotover</i>], [<i>Cuddesden</i>], [<i>Stanton Harcourt</i>], and <i>Banbury</i> .—Great Western Railway	141	18 High Wycombe to Oxford, by <i>Watlington</i> and <i>Chalgrove Field</i>	213
16 Oxford to <i>Bicester</i> .—North-West Railway, Branch from Oxford to <i>Bletchley</i>	197	19 Henley to <i>Burford</i> , by <i>Dorchester</i> , <i>Nuneham</i> , Oxford, and <i>Witney</i> : part of the great road from London to <i>Cheltenham</i>	215
17 High Wycombe to <i>Chipping Norton</i> , by Oxford and <i>Woodstock</i> [<i>BLENHEIM</i>]	198	20 Oxford to <i>Addlestrop</i> , by <i>Charlbury</i> and <i>Wychwood Forest</i> . Oxford, Worcester, and <i>Wolverhampton</i> Railway	226

ROUTE 15.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—DIDCOT TO CROPREDY, BY OXFORD AND BANBURY. PART OF THE LINE FROM LONDON TO BIRMINGHAM.

Leaving the main line, the rly. makes a sharp bend to the rt. On rt. are *Sinodun Hills*, above *Dorchester*.

1. crossing the *Isis* into *Oxfordshire*, a collegiate-like range of Gothic buildings is seen in the midst of a dismal treeless landscape. This is *Culham College*, a training school for schoolmasters, founded by Bishop *Wilberforce* 1853, and capable of containing 130 students. It consists of a chapel, hall, practising

school, dormitory, and principal's lodge. (*J. Clarke*, architect).

56½ m. *Culham Stat.* The line recrosses the *Isis* into *Berkshire* by a bridge, whence there is a good view up the river to *Nuneham Courtenay* (*Geo. G. Harcourt*, Esq., M.P.), whose beautiful woods clothe the side of the hill, and down the river to *Abingdon*, whose conspicuous spire rises above a Cuyp-like landscape. (Rte. 19.)

57½ m. *Abingdon Road Stat.*, whence there is a *Branch Line* to *Abingdon*. (See Rte. 6.)

1. *Radley* (*Rev. W. Sewell*). The quaint red buildings of the college rise behind the village and ch. (See Rte. 6.)

rt. *Sandford Ch.*, on a hill above its picturesque *Lasher*. (Rte. 19.)

1. on the hill-side *Bagley Wood*. rt. *Ifley*: the enriched Norm. ch. tower rises from the trees above an old watermill. (See below and Index.)

rt. The houses and towers of Oxford begin to rise in varied succession above the green willows on the bank of the river. That which is first approached and furthest rt. is the tower of Magdalen, whence the eye wanders by the dome of the Radcliffe, the spire of St. Mary's, and the towers of All Souls and of Merton, till it rests upon the great mass of Christ Ch., with its cathedral spire rising above the hall of Wolsey and the dome-capped tower of Tom Gateway.

The rly. again crosses the river and re-enters Oxfordshire immediately before reaching the town. On the l. flat marshy meadows stretch away to the low hills, which are clothed with the woods of Wytham.

63½ m. OXFORD STAT. Omnibuses, flies, and Hansom cabs are always in waiting to convey the traveller into the city. *Inns*: Mitre, High Street, best and very good; Angel, High Street; Star, Corn Market; King's Arms, Broad Street. There is great room for improvement in most of these inns on the score of cleanliness, comfort, and moderate charges.

The entrance to the town from the rly. is unworthy, through an ugly suburb and narrow streets. A general air of antiquity, however, pervades the whole, and this effect is not lessened, when the traveller emerges into the principal streets, the High Street or Broad Street, by the palatial colleges or Gothic halls and chapels, varied by the tall towers and spires, whose delicate pinnacles stand out brightly against the sky, while the grey masses below are broken by the brilliant green of the solitary trees or luxuriant gardens, which even more than its buildings are a chief characteristic of this ancient city. The crumbling stone

of which the edifices are built gives an appearance of premature old age even to buildings of a modern date; and the academical costume, familiar as it is to those accustomed to University life, imparts an additional interest and picturesqueness for the passing stranger. To one just hurried by train from London, the impression produced by the first sight of Oxford is the more striking. "From noise, glare, and brilliancy, the traveller comes upon a very different scene—a mass of towers, pinnacles, and spires, rising in the bosom of a valley, from groves which hide all buildings but such as are consecrated to some wise and holy purpose. The same river which in the metropolis is covered with a forest of masts and ships, here gliding quietly through meadows, with scarcely a sail upon it—dark and ancient edifices clustered together in forms full of richness and beauty, yet solid as if to last for ever; such as become institutions raised not for the vanity of the builder, but for the benefit of coming ages; streets, almost avenues of edifices which elsewhere would pass for palaces, but all of them dedicated to God; thoughtfulness, repose, and gravity in the countenance and even dress of their inhabitants; and, to mark the stir and business of life, instead of the roar of carriages, the sound of hourly bells calling men together to prayer."

Oxford was formerly called Oxenford, a name supposed to have been derived from a ford over the Isis, much traversed by oxen, but more probably a corruption of Ousenford, the ford over the river Ouse, which is regarded as the ancient name of the Isis. Its Pop. in 1851 was 27,457, including nearly 2000 resident members of the University. The principal street, remarkable at once for the buildings which line its lower extremity, its majestic curve by which one end is entirely

By far the most curious object of antiquity is the circle of stones and the cromlech, near Chipping Norton, known as the Rollrich stones, and considered by Bede to be the second wonder in the kingdom. Similar relics are the cromlech known as the Hoarstone at Enstone, and the scattered stones called the Devil's Quoits at Stanton Harcourt.

There are few remains of ancient castles. At Oxford there is a tower, a Norm. crypt, and a curious subterranean chamber with a well; of Wallingford only the fragment of a tower and an oriel window; of Banbury only the traces of the moat remain. Of the castle of Aylmer de Valence at Bampton, built in the reign of Edward II., there are some curious fragments, with a chamber, added temp. Henry VII., decorated with the red and white roses united. At Broughton there are some beautiful fragments of the old castle adjoining the later building.

Oxfordshire is rich in fine specimens of later domestic architecture; among which may be mentioned the manor-houses of High Lodge, near Woodstock, Asthall, Castleton, Fritwell, Burford Priory, Wroxton Abbey, the ruins of Minster Lovell, Stanton Harcourt, with its tower and almost unique kitchen, and the old Hall of Mapledurham. Besides the ecclesiastical buildings in the city of Oxford the county contains many of interest. Of the churches the most remarkable are—Norm. *Ifley*; Dec. *Kidlington*; Perp. *Ewelme*, and its beautiful tombs; Mixed, Adderbury, Bloxham, Broughton, Burford, Chipping Norton, Cogges, Dorchester, Great Tew, Shiplake, Stanton Harcourt, and Witney.

The artist will delight in the banks of the river at Oxford, and in its whole course between Pangbourne and Reading; otherwise there are few good subjects for his pencil in Oxfordshire. Broughton Castle, Fritwell Manor-house, Ifley, Minster Lovell, Stanton Harcourt, and the market-house at Watlington may be mentioned as picturesque.

THE CITY.

The antiquity of the city of Oxford has been carried up to the most remote ages. John Ross, of Warwick (1491), the earliest historian of Oxfordshire, protested that it was built 1009 B.C. by Memphric, King of the Britons, when it was called *Caer Memphric* in honour of him, which name was changed to *Bellositum*, and afterwards to *Ridohen*, the Celtic for a ford of oxen. Appian mentions Canterbury, London, and Oxford as British cities of eminence. It is often mentioned by the ancient British name of *Caer-Pen-hal goit*, a city on an eminence between two rivers, and adorned with woods.

When Aulus Plautius entered Britain, Oxford is said to "have suffered its most terrible downfall," though Leland, Wood, &c., endeavoured to prove that it was extremely flourishing under the Roman dominion. At the Saxon invasion Leland says, "Oxford was reduced, by hard usage, to a village, having little more to boast of than its ancient name."

In 727 Frideswide, daughter of Didan, governor of Oxford, embraced a religious life, with twelve maidens her companions. About this time her mother *Saffrida* died; and her father, seeking consolation from a

work of piety, employed himself in the construction of a convent within the precincts of the city, of which he appointed her the abbess. "In process of time, by the munificence of the King of Mercia, certain *Inns* were constructed in the vicinity of this church, adapted as much as possible to the character of a religious establishment. This is the earliest notice of Oxford as a place of religious education, and thus the university may be traced to the priory of St. Frideswide."—*Ingram*.

Alfred the Great resided at Oxford, and established a mint (supposed to have been on the site of New Inn Hall), where he coined money called *Ocsnafordia*. In 979 and 1002 Oxford was burned to the ground by the Danes. In 1009 it was again set on fire by Sweyn, King of Denmark, which was awfully avenged in the general massacre of the Danes on St. Brice's Day, when his sister Gunilda and her husband perished in the massacre. In 1015 an Anglo-Saxon *Witenagemote* was held at Oxford in the time of Edmund Ironside, who was murdered here Nov. 30, 1016. The Danes and English were reconciled at Oxford 1018, and Canute held court here for several years, and in 1022 a council, in which the laws of England were first translated into Latin, and enjoined on Danes and English alike. Harold Harefoot was elected, crowned, and died here.

In the Domesday-Book, 1086, the name of the city is written *Oxeneford*. After the conquest Robert d'Oyley built and fortified the Castle of Oxford, and rebuilt the walls, in order the better to keep under the Saxon population. The nephew of this Robert d'Oyley succeeded him, and received the empress Matilda in Oxford Castle, where she was besieged by Stephen in 1141. When the garrison was reduced to the last extremity by famine, Matilda, dressing herself and three knights in white, effected her escape in a snowstorm, crossing the river, which was frozen over, on foot to Abingdon, whence she fled on horseback to Wallingford. On the following day the castle surrendered.

Edith, the wife of the second Robert d'Oyley, founded the magnificent abbey of Oseney on an island in the Isis, on the W. of the city. Henry II. lived for a great part of his reign in the palace of Beaumont, which was built by Henry I., 1132, and there Richard I. was born. In 1190 a dreadful fire occurred, which destroyed most of the wooden houses, and led for the first time to the erection of houses of stone. In 1209 a tremendous quarrel arose between the townsmen and gowmsmen, when the summary execution of three students by the citizens, in revenge for the death of a woman who was accidentally killed by one of their companions, led to the retirement of the whole university, and to the city being laid under an interdict by the pope, who discharged all professors from teaching in it. This was so great a loss that, to induce them to return, the citizens consented, by way of penance, "to go to all the city churches, with whips in their hands, barefooted, and in their shirts, and there pray for the benefit of absolution from every parish priest, repeating the penitential psalms, and to pay a mark of silver per annum to the students of the hall peculiarly injured." During the succeeding reign of Henry III. (during which a council assembled made those regulations



concealed from the other, and its gradual descent towards Magdalen Bridge, is the High Street, which contains the best shops and several of the principal colleges. It runs nearly E. and W., being intersected at the W. end by another large street, formed by the Corn-market and St. Aldate's. The following is the order in which the hurried traveller may most easily visit the sights of Oxford: Christ Ch., its Quadrangles, Cathedral, and Hall; passing through the Peckwater Quadrangle and out at Canterbury Gate, you reach Oriel, Corpus, and Merton Colleges. Oriel Street leads into the High Street opposite St. Mary's Ch. Turning to the rt. you arrive in turn at All Souls, University, and Queen's Colleges. At the end of the street stands Magdalen with its chapel, cloisters, and beautiful tower. Retracing your steps as far as Queen's Lane, and following its windings, you reach New College, whose chapel and gardens are well worthy of a visit. New College Lane brings you to the schools and the venerable Bodleian Library, Brazenose College, and the more modern Radcliffe Library, from the top of which the finest view of Oxford and its neighbourhood is to be obtained. Further on the rt. are the Old Clarendon, the Theatre, and the Ashmolean Museum, whence a few steps will lead you to Wadham, with its pretty quadrangle and garden. Returning and following the Broad Street, passing Exeter, Trinity, and Baliol Colleges, you reach St. Mary Magdalen Ch. and the Martyrs' memorial, near which is St. John's with its beautiful gardens and relics of Charles I. and Archbishop Laud. Almost opposite are the Taylor Buildings, containing a famous collection of sketches by Raffaele and Michael Angelo. Hence the traveller may return to the rly., taking if time allows a glimpse of Worcester

College, which is a good example of the contrast between ancient and modern architecture; and of the Castle, interesting from the early historical events with which it is connected.

The University of Oxford claims Alfred as its founder, who is said to have established here 3 schools or colleges. This claim is chiefly grounded on a suspicious passage of Asser, "against which we must set the absolute assertions of other writers. Oxford was a school of great resort in the reign of Henry II., though its first charter was only granted by Henry III. It became in the 13th centy. second only to Paris in the multitude of its students and the celebrity of its scholastic disputations."—*Hallam*.

"The earliest doctor of this University was the sainted Neot, whose achievements, real or imaginary, coincide with our earliest national deliverance. The long line of its colleges was parallel to the long struggle of English liberty. The two first of their founders shared in the conflicts out of which sprang the House of Commons. The charter of the last foundation was signed by the dying hand of the last sovereign of the House of Stuart. At every turn of the history of the University we are brought into contact with the history of the nation. The name of Baliol still lives in his father's benefaction, long after its disappearance from every other quarter. The dark shadow of the reign of the 2nd Edward rests on the college of Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter, who perished fighting in the streets of London in the cause of his unfortunate master. Masses for the soul of Hugh de Spencer, the unworthy favourite of the same unhappy prince, are enjoined to be offered up in Oriel.

"From Philippa down to Charlotte the Queens of England have

honoured with their favour the college which bears their name. The most illustrious of our heirs apparent, Edward the Black Prince,—Henry V., ‘hostium victor et sui,’—Henry Prince of Wales, the ‘Marcellus’ of the House of Stuart, were educated within the walls of that college and Magdalen. The architect of the noblest of our royal palaces was also the architect and founder of the most elaborate of our colleges, and the genius of Wolsey still lives in the graceful tower of Magdalen and the magnificent courts of Christ Ch. The most permanent impress of the administration of Laud was till lately to be found in the new academical constitution which sprung from his hands. All Souls is a monument of Agincourt; Queens, of Halidon Hill; Lincoln, of the rise of Wycliffe; Corpus, of the revival of letters: the storms of the Reformation, of the Civil Wars, of the Revolution, swept with no ordinary vehemence round the walls of Balliol, of St. John’s, and of Magdalen.”—A. P. S.

Leaving the station and passing Rufus’ Tower and the castle on rt. (see p. 180), the first building of importance which you approach is

Christ Ch., commenced by Cardinal Wolsey 1526. Had the original founder been able to carry out his intention, this would have been the grandest academic institution England had ever seen; but his disgrace prevented this, and Henry VIII. seized the funds appropriated for it. The King afterwards (1546) continued his design, but changed the original name of Cardinal’s College, first into King’s College, and afterwards into Christ Church.

The principal entrance is in St. Aldate’s Street, along one side of which extends the façade of the college, 400 ft. long, broken in the centre by the noble gateway, which is surmounted by a tower, capped by a sort of dome in the Tudor style

of architecture, like the to Frankfort Cathedral. This added by Sir Christopher Wren, contains the *Great Bell of Oxford*, mighty Tom,” weighing 17,000 and the clapper 312 lbs., more double the weight of the great of St. Paul’s. It was brought originally from the abbey of Ossa (whose bells were the most celebrated in England), when it bore the inscription “In Thomæ laresono Bim Bom sine fraude,” and was recast 1680. At 9.10 every evening this bell gives notice to the colleges to close their gates by 11 strokes, the number of students and members of the foundation which existed at Christ Ch. before the operation of the Ordinance of the Commissioners. At the *Porter’s Lodge*, beneath the gateway, the keys of the Hall must be obtained.

Tom Gateway leads into the *Great Quadrangle*, measuring 264 ft. by 261 ft., which contains the lodgings of the dean and canons, the Hall (on rt.), and many sets of rooms belonging to members of the college. It is surrounded by a raised terrace, the earth having been excavated (1665) by Dean Aldrich, in order to give height to the building. The original design of Wolsey was to have built a chapel on the N. side, but this, as well as the intention of surrounding the whole by a cloister (of which the intended pilasters may still be seen), was never carried out. The Quadrangle was terribly injured during the Civil Wars by the intruding dean and canons, who sawed down the timber of the roof for firewood, and destroyed the N. side altogether. The buildings were originally surmounted by an open battlement with pinnacles: the present balustrade was erected by Dr. John Fell, when he completed the court and gateway in 1660–68. In the centre is a fountain known as Mercury, from a paltry statue, given by Dr. Radcliffe, which formerly

stood there, displaced by the present Chancellor as an undergraduate, when it retired to a stone-mason's yard in Holywell, where it is still to be seen. This occupied the site once filled by a large globe, from the top of which water issued, as is represented in Loggan's view, and of the still earlier cross of St. Frideswide, whence sermons were preached as at St. Paul's Cross in London. At the S.E. corner of the Quadrangle is a fine statue of Wolsey by *Bird* (given 1719 by Bishop Trelawney), beneath which you pass to the *Hall*, which is approached by a beautiful staircase, built (by Smith of London) under Dean Fell, 1640, where the single pillar which supports the roof spreads out palm-like into the delicate fanwork with which it is covered. This staircase and its fan-roof would be late Gothic architecture anywhere but in Oxford, where this style lingered down to James II. See the fan-roof of the gateway at University. The *Hall*, the largest and finest in Oxford (length 115 ft., width 40 ft., height 50 ft.), was finished by Wolsey himself 1539, in the late Perp. style. In this hall the Sovereign is received on visiting Oxford, and on the list of royal visitors are Henry VIII., Elizabeth, James I., Charles I., George III., and George IV., who, as Prince Regent, did the honours of the University here to the Emperor of Russia, King of Prussia, and other potentates assembled in Oxford in 1814. Here Elizabeth was witnessing a play, when, "a cry of hounds having been counterfeited in the quadrangle during the performance, the students were seized with a sudden transport, whereat her Majesty cried out, 'O excellent! these boys, in very troth, are ready to leap out of the windows to follow the hounds.'" Here also, in 1621, the scholars enacted the comedy of *τεχνονομία* before James I., when

[*B. B. & O.*]

the king's conduct gave rise to the epigram—

"At Christ Church marriage, done before the King,
Lest that those mates should want an offering,
The King himself did offer—what, I pray?
He offer'd once or twice to go away."

The play acted here in 1636 before Charles I. was remarkable for its scenes and stage machinery, which were the earliest of the kind made in England, and are mentioned by Antony Wood, "in order that posterity might know that what is now seen in the playhouses at London is originally due to the invention of Oxford scholars." In this hall Charles I. in 1644 assembled and addressed his fragment of a Parliament, composed of 43 Peers and 118 Commoners, his adherents, in opposition to that which sat at Westminster. The subsequent meetings of the Peers were held above the schools, and those of the Commons in the Convocation House. King Charles was lodged in this college, his queen Henrietta Maria at Merton. With the exception of royal personages and benefactors, the immense number of portraits in Christ Ch. Hall are confined to those who have been deans, canons, and students. Many are of great interest, as Wolsey and Henry VIII., *Holbein* (copies?); Queen Elizabeth, *Zuccherro*; Bishop Morley, *Lely*; Lord Grenville, *Owen*; George Canning, *Lawrence*; Bishop King, *Jansen*; Atterbury and Smallridge, *Kneller*; Archbishop Robinson and Archbishop Markham, *Reynolds*; Welbore Ellis, *Gainsborough*; John Locke, *Kneller*; Canon Nichol (an admirable portrait), *Reynolds*; and Bishop Hooper, *Hogarth*. The hall was formerly paved with green and yellow tiles, like that of Wolsey at Hampton Court. Close by the hall is the *Kitchen*, which should not pass unnoticed; it was the first point attended to by Wolsey, and is the

oldest part of his building, a circumstance which gave occasion for very caustic remarks among the wits of the day; Wolsey himself being described by Shakespeare as "a man of an unbounded stomach." The arrangements, the 3 huge fire-places, &c., remain unaltered.

At the foot of the hall staircase is the entrance to the surviving buildings of the ancient monastery, now the cloisters of the *Cathedral* (removed by Henry VIII. from Oseney, 1546, and serving in the place of a chapel to the college). This ch. is part of the earliest institution in Oxford, being the remains of the priory of St. Frideswide, or, as she was familiarly called, St. Frid, a sainted princess who became prioress of a nunnery founded by her father King Didymus in 730, and who was celebrated for a double miracle, in first striking her lover Algar blind when he attempted to pursue her, and afterwards restoring his sight. She died here Oct. 14, 740, which anniversary was long held as a gaudy. (The 2 gaudy days now observed are those of Henry VIII., on a day just before long vacation chosen by the Dean, and All Saints' day in honour of Bishop Fell.) This was one of the 22 minor convents, of which Wolsey procured the suppression, by a bull of Pope Clement in 1524, in order to endow this college and his High School at Ipswich with their revenues. The transition into colleges had already begun with other monasteries, such as St. John Baptist at Oxford, and Jesus and Peterhouse at Cambridge. Wolsey commenced here by shortening the nave of the ch., and altering it in various ways, designing it for minor services and divinity exercises, while the actual college chapel on a large and splendid scale was to have been on the N. side of the quadrangle. The existing edifice, which is much shut in on all sides, is chiefly late Norm., consecrated

1150; but must have been built at two, if not more periods, which will be seen on looking at the exterior of the S. transept from the cloisters, where the E. Norm. portion of rubble, with small semicircular windows, will easily be distinguished from the later Norm. of hewn stone, with large windows having shafts. The spire, 144 ft. in height, is the earliest existing in England; the tower contains 10 bells from Oseney Abbey, the "bonny Christ Ch. bells" of Dean Aldrich.

The ch., which has been well restored by Dean Liddell, 1856, is entered at the S.W. corner, and presents a curious mixture of different styles of architecture in which Norm. predominates. The pier arches are double; an inner and a lower arch springs from the corbels attached to the piers beneath the main arches. Both upper and lower arches are of one date and part of the original plan, not, as some have supposed, the upper arches added at a subsequent date. The transepts are separated from the side chapels by heavy screens, added temp. Charles I. (?), formed into inverted arches, which, with the stone arches above, compose circles. The roof of the choir, which is of the same character as that of the Divinity School, is curiously groined with pendants—an enrichment attributed to Wolsey. The E. window, in imitation of the glass at Bourges, is the work of a French artist, M. de Geraute, set up 1850 by subscription, in honour of the completion of the 3rd centy. since the foundation. The pulpit, with its sounding-board, now over the Bishop's seat, and the Vice-Chancellor's seat, were brought from Oseney Abbey, where the ancient altar-plate was also found among the ruins.

Attached to the choir on the N. are two aisles, the further of which is called the Lady or the Latin Chapel, because the college Latin prayers

are sometimes read there; the nearer, the Dean's or St. Frideswide's Chapel, or the Dormitory, from the number of eminent persons who sleep beneath its pavement. The Latin Chapel, built by Lady Elizabeth Montacute, 1320, contains stalls of Wolsey's time of good workmanship. Between the piers which separate these two chapels are 3 tombs:—1. Said to be Sir Henry de Bathe, Justiciary of England, 1252, in a rich shirt with a baldrick over it. The tomb however is nearly 200 yrs. later in date, and the costume does not in any feature resemble that of a judge. 2. Said to be the oldest in the ch., and to represent Prior Guimond, 1149, but more probably a sculpture of the 14th centy. The effigy, which has been elaborately painted, lies under a triple-arched canopy. 3. Lady Elizabeth Montacute, 1353, who gave the Christ Ch. meadows to the Priory: a curious costume and head-dress, very perfect, with broken statuettes in niches around representing her children, two of the daughters having been successively Abbesses of Barking in Essex, and one of the sons, Simon, Bishop of Ely 1337-44. All the costumes are interesting. More remarkable is a structure, wrongly styled the shrine of St. Frideswide (date 1480), but now supposed to have been the watching chamber of the guard or keeper of the shrine and its offerings, which were often of a great value. A similar watching chamber still exists at St. Alban's, and in the ch. of North Marston in Bucks, where it guarded the shrine of Sir John Shorne. In each case the watching chamber alone remains now to testify to the wealth of the deserted shrine. Here it is of wood, ornamented with tabernacle work, and is raised upon a table-tomb, from which the brasses have been removed. The shrine of Frideswide itself was frequently moved to impart sanctity to different

parts of the building, and to stimulate subscriptions towards it. It was constantly visited by devout pilgrims, among whom the last of eminence was Queen Catherine of Arragon. The history of its later existence is very curious. After the Reformation the wife of Peter Martyr, the Protestant canon (who, with Mrs. Coxe, the wife of the Dean, was the first woman ever introduced into college or cloister), was buried beside St. Frideswide. On the accession of Mary, Cardinal Pole, to mark his sense of this as an insult, dug up Mrs. Martyr and buried her under a dunghill; but, on the accession of Elizabeth, St. Frideswide was dug up, and the bones of Mrs. Martyr were mingled with her own, in the same coffin, with the epitaph "*Hic requiescat Religio cum Superstitione.*"

In the Verger's Garden, affixed to the S.E. buttress of the S. transept, is a curious piece of sculpture, which has long been a puzzle to antiquaries. Some suppose it to have been part of the font of St. Frideswide's Ch., others the celebrated shrine itself. It is carved with reliefs representing—1. Adam and Eve; 2. Sacrifice of Isaac; 3. A subject which has been supposed to be the Last Judgment, but this is improbable, as in early sculpture the Deity would not have been represented of the same size as the other figures.

Here are buried—in the porch, Otho Nicholson, donor of the Carfax conduit; in the ante-chapel, Dean Gaisford; at the entrance of the nave, Bishop Berkeley, with a monument against a pillar, and over his grave a stone inscribed with the single line from Pope, "*To Berkeley every virtue under heav'n;*" in the N. transept, Peter Elmsley, the Greek commentator; in the Lady Chapel, Fell, with a monument remarkable for being inscribed on both sides; in St. Frides-

wide's Chapel, Burton, the author of the 'Anatomy of Melancholy,' Democritus Junior, as he styles himself in his epitaph; Dean Aldrich; Bishop Tanner the antiquarian; and Pococke the Orientalist (1691). In the S. aisle is the tomb of Bishop King, the last Abbot of Osency and first Bishop of Oxford, above which is his portrait in stained glass, the background of which is the best existing likeness of Osency Abbey. This was taken down and preserved by one of the Bishop's family during the usurpation in 1648, and put up again at the Restoration. In the N. transept is a beautiful statue (by *Chantrey*) of Cyril Jackson, Dean of Christ Ch., who abdicated in the plenitude of his power, and retired to Felpham, where he is buried with the epitaph, "Lord, in thy sight shall no man living be justified."

There was till lately a window of stained glass at the E. end of the Latin Chapel, "Christ in the Temple," in the grey tint of the 17th cent., bearing the name of *Van Linge*; it is now superseded by a window representing the life of St. Frideswide, for which the funds were bequeathed by the late Dr. Bull. From the constant changing of the glass, the ancient windows are difficult to recognise; in the N. transept, now planted in the midst of a forest, is a representation of Becket's murder, a hole marking the place where the head was knocked out at the Reformation, the destruction of all images and likenesses of Becket being especially ordained. Four divisions of the great W. window were brought thither from the Latin Chapel. When *Chantrey* declared that a stained window would be necessary to sober the light thrown upon his statue of Dean Jackson, that at the S.W. corner of the cathedral was removed for the purpose, but in consequence of the indignant remon-

strance of Bishop Lloyd, who, from the entrance from his (the Regius Professor of Divinity's) house being under that window, considered it his especial property, its place was supplied by a stained window from the N. side of the cathedral. "The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah," and "St. Peter released from prison by an Angel," were painted in 1700 by Isaac Oliver when 84 yrs. of age. Much ancient glass was destroyed by the Puritans, among whom Canon Wilkinson, Margaret Professor of Divinity, was its chief enemy, "furiously stamping upon the windows, when they were taken down, and utterly defacing them."

Among the customs of Christ Ch., the versicle, "O Lord, save the Queen," and its response, are chanted, at the end of the anthem, before the prayer for the Queen, and each of the canons, on leaving the choir at the close of the service, turns round and makes a low reverence to the altar. Service is performed here at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M.

The Chapter-house attached to the cloister (which cannot be visited without application to the dean or one of the canons) is a beautiful specimen of E. E. style, with lancet windows and a groined vault. It is the only chapter-house still used for ordinary business, but is unhappily divided by an ugly wooden screen. Here is a door, which is only opened when a new head of St. John's is appointed and comes to make obeisance to the dean and chapter of Christ Ch. Here in the outer division is a fine fragment of stained glass, which has wandered away from a window of the Annunciation in the nave of the cathedral, and the foundation-stone of Wolsey's other college at Ipswich (which died with him). The inner division contains a curious collection of pictures. On the screen are Henry VII. and Elizabeth of York; Henry VIII., painted as usual in full face, because,

when Holbein wished to draw him in profile, he said, "If you paint my ears, which are very ugly, I'll cut off yours;" Wolsey, as usual, in profile, because of a squint in one eye; Mary; Elizabeth; and Peter Martyr, the first Protestant canon. Above them, Compton Bishop of London, 1675 (famous during the Revolution); on the l. Potter (the Greek Potter); on the rt. Godwin (author of the 'Lives of English Bishops'); also, John King, Bishop of London (called "King of Preachers" by James I.). On the l. wall are 3 portraits, taken at various ages, of Dean Aldrich, celebrated both as an architect, in which capacity he designed Peckwater, All Saints' Ch., and Trinity College Chapel, and for his talents as a poet and musician, shown in his various revolutionary and bacchanalian catches and songs, and still more so in his anthems.

The *Cloisters* contain on l. a fine Norm. doorway; on rt. lower down a very beautiful window of the 15th centy.: this opens into *Chaplain's Quad.*, built in its present form by Dean John Fell, 1672, the N. side being part of the ancient Rectory of St. Frideswide, which was afterwards the "Old Library," a name which it still retains, though now divided into rooms for undergraduates. In the adjoining quadrangle is the *Anatomical Theatre and Museum* (begun 1776), containing a collection illustrative of human and comparative anatomy, and some beautiful wax models of the human body, executed at Florence. Here also is shown the skeleton of a woman who had 10 husbands, and was hanged at the age of 36 for the murder of 4 of them. It is arranged that this collection shall be removed to the New Museum.

. l. of the cloister a door opens towards a wing of the college, with a broad overhanging roof, known as *Fell's Buildings*. At the end of

the cloister is the entrance to the beautiful Christ Ch. walk.

Returning and recrossing Tom Quad., noticing rt., beyond the Hall, the house of the Regius Professor of Hebrew (Dr. Pusey), as possessing the oldest fig-tree in England, imported from the Levant in 1691 by Pococke the orientalist,—a gateway is reached, surmounted by a statue of Samuel Fell (given by Hammond). This is sometimes called Kill-Canon, from the pernicious effects of its draughty situation, and forms the entrance to Peckwater, a large quadrangle named from the inn of one Radulph Peckwether, Mayor of Oxford in time of Henry III., which occupied its site. Peckwater Inn was celebrated for its grammarians, amongst whom John Leland taught in the reigns of Henry V. and VI., of whom Wood says, that "he went beyond the learnedest of his age, and was so noted a grammarian that this verse was made upon him—

"Ut rosa flos forum, sic Leland grammaticorum."

It was here that William Penn, who, having entered the University during the Protectorate, was provoked by the restoration of the ancient ceremonial, flew with his associates upon the Christ Ch. students when they appeared for the first time in their white surplices, and tore the hated garments to pieces. The present architecture is Palladian. On the S. side of Peckwater is the *Library* (1761), whose chief benefactors were Otho Nicholson, the builder of the Conduit, and Archbishop Wake, 1837. It contains very little that is worth seeing, though it is always commended by Oxford cicerones. The lower story, originally intended for an open arcade, now serves as a picture-gallery, furnished chiefly by a bequest of Gen. Guise. This contains a great deal of rubbish, and a very

few good works, among which some of the early Tuscan school are curious, these masters being rare in England: *Ann. Caracci*, the painter and his family as butchers; *Raphael*, fragment of the cartoon of the Murder of the Innocents, apparently genuine and very valuable—on paper; *An. Mantegna*, Virgin and St. John, probably a fragment of a larger picture. There are also specimens of *Giotto*, *Cimabue*, *Duccio*, &c., the gifts of Mr. Fox Strangways, and an ugly injured fragment of Greek sculpture—a woman and boy, found at Pella. On the staircase is a statue of Locke (by Rysbrach), who was expelled from his studentship at Christ Ch. by Charles II. "It was determined to drive from that celebrated college the most distinguished man of whom it could ever boast. He was deprived of his home and his bread without notice; he had lived on confidential terms with Shaftesbury, and thus incurred the displeasure of the court. . . . He quietly repaired to Utrecht, where he employed himself in writing his celebrated letter on toleration."—*Macaulay's Hist.*, vol. i.

At the back of the Library is the *Dean's Garden*. "To the intent that the doctors and divines, who busied themselves about Cranmer (during his imprisonment), might win him more easily, they had him to the Dean's house of Christ Ch., where he lacked no delicate fare, played at the bowls, had his pleasure for walking, and all other things that might bring him from Christ."—*Foote*.

The S. or Canterbury Quadrangle, rebuilt by Wyatt, stands on the site of Canterbury Hall, founded by Archbishop Islip, of which the famous reformer Wycliffe was till lately supposed to have been Master, and where Sir Thos. More studied under Linacre. A classic gateway built by Archbishop Robinson leads

out of it towards Oriel and Merton Colleges.

A great and natural source of pride to Christ Ch. are its beautiful walks, which surround the promontory formed by the confluence of the Isis and Cherwell, and enclose a meadow of 50 acres. The upper part of these lands have always been in the same hands. St. Frid had the Merton Meadows always: a morass, intersected by streams, as a defence to the wall. The boundary of the property is marked immediately below the Magdalen Bridge. The house at the N.E. corner of the meadows is still called "the Grange" or "Bar(n)ton," where the bailiffs of St. Frid lived. A famous avenue of elms, dating from the Restoration, stretches across the meadows, and encloses the *Broad Walk*, raised by Bishop Fell with the earth removed in excavating Tom Quad., and again by Dean Aldrich with earth removed from Peckwater. The walk was first called the "White Walk," in consequence of the chippings of white stone from the college, of which it was composed, whence "Wide Walk," whence its present name. Here on the evening of *Show Sunday*, that immediately before Commemoration, nearly all the members of the University, with the strangers visiting Oxford, form a kind of voluntary procession, and filling the walk present an animated scene. The path running parallel to this is the *Horse Path*, which was for the conveyance of food to the priory. It crossed the Cherwell by a bridge, of which the abutments still remain, and went over the meadows opposite. The walk below Merton wall, having a S. aspect, and being protected on the E. and W., is called the *Dead Man's Walk*, from its being frequented by invalids, and being so warm as to revive a man almost dead with cold.

The Christ Church walks are 1½

m. in circuit. At the further side the Cherwell joins the Isis. The walk by the Isis is bordered by the College barges, which are fitted up inside as writing and reading-rooms. Two of these once belonged to City of London Companies, and figured in the ancient processions on the Thames. During the races the tops of the barges are filled by Collegians, who are ready to cheer their respective boats. The grand procession of the racing-boats takes place during Commemoration Week, at which time the meadows are crowded with spectators.

Nearly opposite the Canterbury Gate of Christ Church stands *Oriel College*, founded by Edward II., who is said to have made a vow to the Virgin, when flying from the field of Bannockburn, that he would found a religious house in her honour if he ever returned in safety. "Prompted and aided by his almoner (Adam de Brom), he decided on placing this house in the city of Alfred, and the Image, which is opposite its entrance, is the token of the vow and its fulfilment to this day." The original College of Adam de Brom and Edward II. was Tackley's Hall, so called from having belonged to the rector of that place, and stood at the back of the High Street; where its remains may still be seen in some arches and a groined crypt behind Wheeler's shop. The mansion on the present site, bestowed on the College by Edward III., was called *Le Oriole*, and formerly belonged to James of Spain, Chaplain of St. Mary's, to whom it had been granted by Eleanor, mother of Edw. II.; hence the Spanish pomegranate, which frequently appears in the decorations of the College. The name was probably derived from *Oriolum*, signifying a gateway, the feature for which the College is thought to have been conspicuous. No part of the existing building is older than 1620. The Hall contains

pictures of Edward II.; and his statue with that of Edward III. supports the Virgin over the gateway. The most interesting relic is the cup of Edward II. with this inscription, "Vir racione bibas, non quod petit atra voluptas; sic caro casta datur; vis lingue suppedatur." The cocoa-nut cup of Bp. Carpenter, 1476, is also curious. In the common room is a picture by *Vasari* containing portraits of Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, and Politian. On the wall of one of the quadrangles is an inscription in Runic characters—*MADR. ER. MOLDVR. AVKI*, "Man is but a heap of dust"—placed here by Bp. Robinson in 1719. This College, as being the first to open its fellowships to the University, was remarkable for the celebrated members it contained within its walls, viz., Copleston, Whately, Keble, Arnold, Newman, Hampden, Davidson, Pusey, and others. In earlier times it numbered Sir Walter Raleigh and Bp. Butler amongst its members.

S. of Oriel is *Corpus Christi College*, founded in 1516 by Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester, who, with Cardinal Wolsey, closed the long list of munificent and opulent prelates who bestowed their wealth for the benefit of future generations. When, already in extreme and blind old age, Fox wished to devote his fortune to founding a monastic establishment at Winchester in honour of St. Swithin, his friend Hugh Oldham, Bp. of Exeter, sagaciously foreseeing the downfall of the monasteries, induced him to turn his designs to the foundation of this College. It was probably this foresight of the approaching storm which also induced Fox to perpetuate the doctrine of Corpus Christi in the name, which is also indicated by the chalice and paten over the gate. The Collect for Trinity Sunday (the old Catholic for the new Catholic doctrine) is

also used every day by this College in place of that for Corpus Christi. The College is dedicated to the patron-saints of the four sees of which the founder was successively Bishop.

The quadrangle remains as it was left by the founder, and contains a remarkable cylindrical dial, with a perpetual calendar, in its centre, constructed 1605 by Sir C. Turnbull, a fellow of the College. Opposite the entrance is the statue of the founder; the hall contains his picture, and the chapel (which has a fine altarpiece, by *Rubens*, from the collection of the Prince de Condé at Chantilly) his pastoral staff, rings, pyxes, and other valuables. The gallery connecting the chapel with the President's Lodgings contains an interesting portrait of him when blind, as well as portraits of the 7 bishops who were sent to the Tower. The Library contains the founder's collection of the Aldine Classics. The rooms on the 2nd floor of the library staircase were those inhabited by the learned Hooker. Cardinal Pole and Bishop Jewell, and the Ever-Memorable Hales, were also members of this College, and in modern times Dr. Buckland. Professorships were founded at Corpus for the then rising studies of Greek and Latin, which caused Erasmus to say that "what the colosseus was to Rhodes, what the mausoleum was to Caria, that Corpus Christi College would be to Great Britain," and to give it the name of "*Bibliotheca trilinguis*"—the library of the three learned languages. The Pelican over the gateway commemorates the charitable Fox, the Owl his friend Bp. Oldham. A tame fox was long kept by the College. The view from the garden in front of "Turner's Building" (called from its founder) is picturesque.

Next to Corpus is *Merton College*, which claims fuller consideration

than any other, as unfolding the idea of a collegiate system which had no existence before the days of its founder. It was built in 1260 by Walter de M., Chancellor of England, who made his fortune by legal success, and bought first Maldon in Surrey, and then Merton, for his poor relations; whence the name. He was afterwards Bp. of Rochester for 3 years, and long "*clericus noster, familiaris noster*," to the King. Merton was founded probably for parochial as distinguished from regular clergy, all community with whom was forbidden; hence a doubt whether Roger Bacon and Duns Scotus (as friars) could have been fellows. The idea was that of "an endowed corporation of scholars, free from vows," "*qui non religiosi, religiose viverent*;" and here first the students were collected into one building, under a Master or Head, which served as a type to the other Colleges.

Walter had an especial veneration for St. John the Baptist; hence his choice of the church of St. John for his College chapel, and hence the sculpture over the gateway, which represents the founder in full pontificals, dedicating the 7-clasped Book of Knowledge to the Lamb in the wilderness, which is crowded with apes, unicorns, birds, and rabbits, the Baptist standing in the background. The Chapel is an enlargement of the old parish ch. by Walter, who lived to see the dedication of the high altar; the windows are contemporaneous (except the lower part of the E.), and are like those at Cologne, which Walter must have seen when there with Richard King of the Romans. Their procession is remarkable. The E. window, called the Catherine-wheel window (by *Price*, 1700), is filled with beautiful tracery, and contains his arms, and those of his royal fathers. The others were given by Henry de

Mansfeld, one of the fellows, in 1307, who is represented kneeling in each before an apostle. The castles in the border stand for Eleanor of Castile. The groundwork with the ivy-leaf pattern is very rare and beautiful. The nave of the parish church, which must have been small, was pulled down in 1414, and, as the beginning of a new one, the present ante-chapel and tower were built. The N.E. window of the N. transept was given by Wyking, the famous vicar of St. Peter's; the E. window of the S. transept by Archbishop Chichele, founder of All Souls. The plan was to have carried out the nave into the waste ground extending to St. Frideswide; but this was given up when the Warden and Fellows of Merton sold it to Fox for the building of Corpus. There is a curious example of the change of the value of money, in the fact that they chose 4*l.* yearly rent-charge instead of a manor, and this they receive still! The chapel has been beautifully restored, and the roof designed and painted by the Rev. J. H. Pollen, some time Fellow, now a member of the Church of Rome. The floor of the room originally used by the bell-ringers in the tower has been removed, and an open gallery constructed for them, by means of which the 4 fine arches are completely shown, and the groined oak roof exposed. In the choir are 2 magnificent brasses—one representing Henry Sever (Warden 1471); the other, 2 bosom friends, Bloxham (Warden) and Whytton, buried side by side under a beautiful Gothic cross, about 1387: and a remarkable lectern of the 15th cent., inscribed, "Orate pro animâ Magistri Johannis Martok." Over the altar is a picture of the Crucifixion (Bassano, or Tintoret?). The ante-chapel contains 3 remarkable monuments of members of the College—1, Sir Thomas Bodley, founder of the

Library; 2, Antony Wood, the antiquarian, who lived opposite Merton, in the little stone house, where he was born 1632; and 3, Saville, surrounded by the symbols of his works—1, Chrysostom; 2, Tacitus; 3, a turbaned Astronomer; 4, a (latted) Greek Mathematician; 5, a Globe; 6, Merton; 7, Eton.

The quadrangles are curious and picturesque. The Library Quadrangle, or "Mob Quad.," has been little altered since Richard II., and may be considered as the cradle of collegiate life. It is approached by 2 passages, with high pointed groining of the 13th century. Over the second of these is the exceedingly curious *Treasury*, built entirely of stone by the founder, with a high-pitched ashlar roof. It contains among other curious papers the receipt of a mother for her son from the feudal lord, "Recepi filium meum." Attached to it is the Warden's tower. The *Library* itself was built before the invention of printing, and, being the earliest, has served as a model to other colleges. Each book was chained till 1780. It is divided into Arts, Theology, and Medicine, in which last subject it is very perfect: many of these books were left by Rede Bp. of Chichester, 1385. The Library abounds in ancient Bibles. Among its curiosities are also Caxton's 1st edition of Chaucer; a MS. written by Duns Scotus; a MS. of 10th cent. of Eusebius. Here also are the Globes obtained by Saville, then Warden (1621), in exchange for "the fair organs" of the chapel. There are fragments of early glass of St. John and the Lamb, in honour of the patron. Other glass is 1598.

The *Inner Quadrangle* has a gateway in imitation of that of the Schools, with four of the Orders, the spaces between being filled with Gothic panelling. It is stated to have been built by Bentley, one of the builders of the Schools. The

Hall contains a portrait of Denison Bp. of Salisbury.

The W. wall was formerly defended by a morass (where is now the nursery-garden), water being brought (by agreement with St. John's Hospital) through a cutting of the Cherwell—that which runs under Magdalen. "People rowed up to Merton College buttery to refresh themselves. Most part of the wall on this side was formerly built on arches; 2 or 3 appear near the Postern, almost swallowed up, because the ground was so low and plashy. In Stephen's time this wall was inaccessible, by reason of deep water encompassing it on every side."—*Peshall's Hist. of Oxford*.

When dinner is ended at Merton (as well as at Pembroke) the table is struck by the Senior Fellow 3 times with a trencher. These strokes summon the butler, who enters in his book what each Fellow has had of the buttery supplies. The grace-cup is then handed round, and another stroke of the trencher summons the Bible-clerk to say grace. *Merton Black Night* was a custom of breaking open the buttery and kitchen, and promiscuously devouring their contents, said to have arisen in consequence of an unlucky answer of Duns Scotus, then Dean, who, when Ockham, then a Fellow, asked, "Domine, quid faciemus?" replied, "Ite et facite quid vultis." The earliest Common Room in the University was fitted up here in 1667.

Till the time of Henry VI. there existed to the W. of Merton Chapel the marble Cross, erected by the Jews as a penance for having destroyed a crucifix which was being carried in procession to the shrine of St. Frideswide in 1263.

While the Court of Charles II. was quartered here Lady Castlemaine, afterwards Duchess of Cleveland, gave birth to a son by him. Hence "the possessor of all the virtues save one" used to go with a

friend to Trinity College Chapel, "half-dressed like angels," or make her entrance to the College walks, with a lute playing before her.

Adjoining Merton is *St. Alban Hall*, named after its founder, Robt. de St. Alban, a citizen of Oxford in the time of John. The small quadrangle contains a curious ancient bell-tower. This Hall was originally dependent upon the nunnery of Littlemore. Hooper the martyr, Massinger the poet, and the Speaker Lenthall were among its members.

Returning to Oriel Street, you pass *St. Mary Hall*, which was originally the "Manse" of St. Mary's Church; but c. 1436 was turned into a hall, of which Sir Thomas More and Sir C. Hatton were members. The High Street is entered opposite *St. Mary's Church*, which has a beautiful Dec. spire, richly ornamented with pomegranates, in honour of Queen Eleanor of Castile. The original ch. was built by Adam de Brom, Almoner to Edward II., on the traditional site of the ch. of Alfred. This is the University Ch., and here sermons are preached before the University on all Sundays and feast-days. The ch. is good Perp., except the Italian porch on the S. side, which was erected by Morgan Owen, one of Archbishop Laud's chaplains, and in which the image of the Virgin and Child, still remaining, was one of the principal articles on which the Archbishop was impeached. The present chancel (68 ft. by 24) was erected 1472, by Lybert Bp. of Norwich; the nave (94 ft. by 54) and aisles, 1488, under the auspices of Sir Reginald Bray (the architect of Windsor and Great Malvern), whose arms, as a benefactor, formerly ornamented one of the windows. All the old chapels are swept away, except the monumental chantry of Adam de Brom on the N. Dr. Radcliffe, the last person in Oxford who was honoured with a public funeral attended by the whole University,

is buried at the base of the organ-loft without a monument; and at the W. door is the grave of the unhappy Amy Robsart, wife of Robert Dudley, E. of Leicester, who was brought here from Cumnor. It is said that Sir Walter Scott's story of Amy Robsart was grounded on the fact that, when Dr. Babington, Lord Leicester's chaplain, was ordered to preach her funeral sermon in this ch., he was so nervous that "he thrice recommended to men's memories that virtuous lady so pitifully murdered, instead of saying so pitifully slain;" at which the people, whose minds were already predisposed, took fire, and the belief was never eradicated. Near the W. end is a monumental tablet by *Flaxman* to Sir William Jones.

John of Oxford, the well-known partisan of Henry II. in his contest with Becket, had the title of Dean of this ch.

In the chancel the Mayor and Corporation, with halters round their necks, were long accustomed to do penance and pay a fine on Sta. Scholastica's day, for an outrage committed against the University in the time of the old town and gown riots. Cranmer, immediately before his death, was brought to this ch. to hear a Popish sermon, and to proclaim his own conversion to Popery, being placed on a platform opposite the pulpit and surrounded by armed men. But when the discourse was ended, contrary to the expectation of his enemies, he boldly repudiated and renounced all things that he had written "contrary to the truth" since his degradation, adding, "As for the Pope, I refuse him as Anti-Christ." The auditors then began to make an uproar; the preacher cried "Stop the heretic's mouth;" and he was dragged to the stake. In 1563, from the scarcity of University preachers, the laity often occupied the pulpit. A sermon is recorded of the Sheriff of Oxford,

which began,—“Arriving at Mount St. Mary's, at the stony stage where I now stand, I have brought you some fine biscuits, baked in the oven of charity, carefully conserved for the chickens of the church, the sparrows of the spirit, and the sweet swallows of salvation!” This ch. was celebrated from the sermons of the Rev. J. H. Newman, who was vicar 1834-43.

At the N.E. end of St. Mary's is the old Convocation House, the only relic of an earlier ch. on this site, over which is a room which was—1st, a Library, founded 1320 by Cobham, Bishop of Worcester (the parent of the Bodleian, to which the books were transferred 1480); 2nd, the Upper House of Convocation; 3rd, a Law School.

Descending the High Street, on the l. is *All Souls College*, founded by Archbishop Chichele (1437) as a chantry for all the souls of those who fell in the French wars, being framed on the model of New College, to which Chichele himself belonged. The chantry was combined with a place of education on a splendid scale, and was probably spared at the Reformation, when all other chantries were swept away, on account of its collegiate character. It is said that, in digging the foundations of this college, a large mallard issued from one of the drains, which gave rise to a mallard being the college crest, and to the song of 'The Swapping Mallard' being sung by the fellows once a year.

Over the gate are the statues of Henry VI. and the founder, with a high relief representing the souls released from purgatory. The 1st quadrangle is in the same state in which it was erected by Chichele, and contains a curious dial designed by *Sir C. Wren* when fellow here; the 2nd quadrangle was designed by *Hawksmoor*. The Chapel contains a fresco representing the assumption of the founder, by *Thomas*

hill. Evelyn went "to see ye picture on the wall over ye altar at All Soules, being ye largest piece of fresco painting (or rather imitation of it, for it is in oil of turpentine) in England, not ill design'd by the hand of one Fuller. It seems too full of naked for a chapel." Beneath is the "Noli me tangere" of *Raphael Mengs*. In the ante-chapel is a huge statue of Sir W. Blackstone. The *Hall* contains some interesting portraits, among which are those of Jeremy Taylor and Bishop Heber, Fellows of this college, with the bust of the latter by *Chantrey*. The *Library*, which is a fine room built by bequest of Col. Codrington, 1716, possesses, among other interesting works, the original designs of Wren for the building of St. Paul's, &c., 300 in number. In the vestibule are a tripod from Corinth, and portraits of Henry VI. and Chichele on glass, with one of John of Gaunt, which is said to have belonged to the founder. In the buttery are preserved a drum from Sedgemoor, and the curious silver-gilt saltcellar of the founder, 400 yrs. old. The Warden's Lodgings contain a fine picture, by *Kneller*, of their architect, the secretary of Prince George of Denmark, writing from his master's dictation; and a portrait of Charles I., known as "the Oxford Charles," and described in the verses of Tickell.

Opposite All Souls on the rt. is *University College*, whose weather-beaten front is the chief ornament of the High Street. This college was founded by William Archdeacon of Durham, rector of Wearmouth in 1249; though, according to a tradition, confirmed by a judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench in 1726, it owes its foundation to Alfred the Great. The earliest building purchased with the bequest of William of Durham was Drogheda Hall, opposite the gate of the present college, in 1255; and in 1263 a *hall on the site of the present Braze-*

nose College: the college was removed to its present site about 1343. The front is of the late Gothic of Charles, topped by a serrated outline of gables, and entered by 2 gateways surmounted by statues of Mary and Anne. Above that leading into the larger court on the inside is a statue of James II., a historic monument, since it was the gift of Dr. Obadiah Walker, who was master for 2½ yrs. in that reign, became a convert to Popery, and openly celebrated mass in the rooms adjoining the E. end of the chapel. According to a song of the time—

"Old Obadiah sings Ave Maria."

He was tried and dismissed after the Revolution. There is only one other public statue of James II., that at the back of Whitehall. This king himself attended vespers in the college. Among the heads of the college were Archbishop Abbot and Archbishop Bancroft. The *Hall* contains portraits of other remarkable members, among whom are Mr. Wyndham, Lords Eldon and Stowell, Sir Roger Newdigate, and Sir William Jones.

Shelley, who was expelled from this college, inhabited rooms on the first floor of the staircase to the rt. of the hall. "In his time, books, papers, boots, philosophical instruments, clothes, pistols, linen, crockery, bags, and boxes were scattered on the floor and in every place; tables and carpets stained with large fire spots; an electric machine, air-pump, solar microscope, &c.; two piles of books supported the tongs, and then a small glass retort above an Argand lamp, which soon boiled over, added fresh stains to the table, and rose in disagreeable fumes."—*Shelley's Memoirs*.

The *Chapel*, built 1665, has a screen by Gibbons, and some ludicrous windows by *Van Linge*. The E. window, by *Giles of York*,

is ugly and faded. There is a curious poker-picture by a former Master over the altar, and in the ante-chapel a monument to Sir W. Jones, once a Fellow, by *Flaxman*; a fine bas-relief represents him forming his Digest of Hindoo Law, while the Brahmins are, expounding to him the text of the Vedas. The E. court has only three sides, and was built at the expense of Dr. Radcliffe, whose statue is over the gateway. At the W. end of the college are its New Buildings, designed by *Sir Charles Barry, R.A.*

Dr. Johnson was a constant visitor in the Common Room here, where he used "to drink off three bottles of port without being the worse for it."—*Boswell*. The late aged President of Magdalen, Dr. Routh, who died 1855, recollected stopping in the High Street, "to see him scramble up the steps of University College."

An old ceremony of chopping the block is still preserved here at Easter. Each member as he leaves the hall, strikes with a cleaver at a block, which is wreathed with flowers for the occasion; the tradition being, that whoever shall succeed in cleaving it will become the possessor of all the college estates. All the members of the college are awakened in the morning by a violent cudgelling at the foot of each staircase. A more remarkable ceremony follows the administration of the sacrament, when Master and Fellows adjourn to the ante-chapel, whither they are followed by a Bible-clerk bearing the remains of the sacred elements, which they consume, standing in a semicircle.

Lower down the High Street on the l. is *Queen's College*, a modern Grecian building, much resembling the palace of the Luxembourg at Paris, by *Wren* and his pupil *Hawksmoor*, the first stone having been laid on Queen Anne's birthday, 1710.

Under a cupola above the central gateway is a statue of Caroline, Queen of George II. This college was founded 1340, by Robert de Eglesfield, confessor to Queen Philippa, from whom it took its name; and "there, according to tradition, the Prince of Wales her son, as in the next generation Henry V., was brought up. If we look at the events which followed, he could hardly have been 12 yrs. old when he became a member. . . . Queen's College is much altered in every way since the little prince went there, but they still keep an engraving of the vaulted room he is said to have occupied. . . . You may still hear the students summoned to dinner, as he was, by the sound of a trumpet; and, in the hall, you may still see, as he saw, the Fellows sitting all on one side the table, with the Head of the College in the centre, in imitation of the 'Last Supper,' as it is commonly represented in the pictures. The very names of the Head and the 12 Fellows (the number first appointed by the founder, in likeness of our Lord and the Apostles) are known to us. He must have seen what has long since vanished away, the 13 beggars, deaf, dumb, maimed, or blind, daily brought into the hall, to receive their dole of bread, beer, pottage, and fish. He must have seen the 70 poor scholars, instituted after the example of the 70 disciples, and learning from their two chaplains to chant the service. He must have heard the mill within or hard by the college walls grinding the Fellows' bread. He must have seen the porter of the college going round to shave the beards and wash the heads of the Fellows."—*Stanley's Memorials of Canterbury*. The brass of the Founder Eglesfield is, strange to say, now exiled to the *Buttery*, where are also preserved a magnificent drinking-horn, inscribed with the word *Waccas*!

(Wassail), the lid surmounted by an eagle, and the curious cocoa-nut cup of Provost Bost, resting on 4 lions.

The *Chapel* of Queen's is not remarkable, but contains some painted windows by *Van Linge*, 1635, and 4 which are a centy. older. The ceiling was painted by Sir J. Thornhill.

The *Hall* contains portraits of Addison and Tickell, Fellows of the College; and the gallery above old portraits of Edward III. and Henry V. Queen's possesses an excellent *Library*, chiefly formed, 1841, by a bequest of Dr. Mason. It possesses 2 windows rescued from the lodging of Henry V., and bearing portraits of him and of Cardinal Beaufort. One of them is inscribed,

"In Perpetuum Rei Memoriam
Imperator Britanniae,
Triumpator Galliae
Hostium Victor et Sui
Henricus V.
Parvi Hujus Cubiculi
Olim Magnus Ingola."

Every Christmas-day a boar's head is served in the hall, after being introduced in grand procession; and every New Year's day the bursar presents to the guests a needle and thread, coloured blue, red, and yellow, for the three faculties, with the words "Take this, and be thrifty;" a custom said to have its derivation from the name of the founder—"aiguille," "fil."

From the corner beyond Queen's is one of the finest and most characteristic views in Oxford, and hence "the stream-like windings of the glorious street," as described by Wordsworth, are seen to the greatest advantage.

rt. is the *Angel Hotel*, opened as the first coffee-house in Oxford, for "such as delighted in novelty," by one Jacob, a Jew, in 1650.

On the l. is the school for the *Magdalen* choristers, designed by *Pugin*, and founded by Dr. Routh,

1849, on his 95th birthday. Here is *Long Wall Street*, so called, on the rt., from the old town wall by which it is bounded, which (and almost every other wall in Oxford) is enlivened in summer by the bright golden flowers of the *Senecio squaridus*, or *inelegant ragwort*, the seeds of which are said to have been first sent hither from the grotto of *Egeria*, but which is now the commonest of Oxford weeds. By the turret of *Magdalen Grove*, turning up to *Holywell*, stood formerly "a fair stone cross, with the stocks, pillory, and gallows." This street leads to the picturesque group of buildings formed by *Holywell Ch.*, cemetery, school, and manor-house, surrounded by tall elm-trees. The *Churchyard* contains the grave of *Thomas Holt*, the architect of the *Bodleian*, 1624. The *Cemetery* resembles those of Switzerland and Germany, and is truly a "*Friedhof*," each grave surrounded with its tiny garden of flowers. Beyond the manor-house, a path winds through willow-fringed meadows to *Parson's Pleasure*, which name is supposed to have been originally "*Parisians' Pleasure*," from being the resort of the French students. The river *Cherwell* furnishes here an excellent bathing-place, much frequented by the University. Formerly there was a medicinal spring here, the meadow near it was "*Music Mead*," and the raised walk by the river was for the high dignitaries. In these fields may be traced some remains of the earthworks thrown up during the siege of Oxford.

Returning to the High Street, you arrive immediately at *Magdalen College*. This is the first building seen on entering Oxford by the old London road, and is distinguished at once by its graceful *Perp. tower*, 145 ft. high (1492-1505), rising at the side of the bridge over the *Cherwell*. This college was founded in 1457 by William Patten, sur-

named Waynflete from his birth-place in Lincolnshire. An ancient hospital of St. John the Baptist formerly occupied this site, which was placed outside the walls, both to guard the ferry over the river and as a hospice for the refreshment of pilgrims visiting the shrine of St. Frideswide. The "pilgrims' wicket" is still distinctly traceable in the old walls. The low embattled buildings towards the street are in part the remains of the hospital; those round the first quadrangle, which is entered by a modern gateway (designed by Pugin in 1844), were built shortly before the founder's death. The noble oriel over the further gate is that of the Founder's chamber, where Edward IV., Richard III., Henry VII., Prince Arthur, Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, and Prince Henry, have been successively entertained. Here also the late venerable President, Dr. Routh, expired in his 100th yr. This and the adjoining chambers have been recently restored, and are fitted up with beautiful wood carving, old tapestry, and coloured glass. They are only accessible through the President's house. The low porch opposite is that of the chapel, and contains statues of St. John the Baptist, Edward IV., Mary Magdalen, St. Swithin, and the Founder. In the corner of the quadrangle on the rt. is a stone pulpit (called St. John's from the hospital), whence a sermon was always preached on St. John the Baptist's day, the court being hung with green boughs and strewn with rushes to commemorate St. John's preaching in the wilderness. The last time that a sermon was preached here was by one Bacon on a wet day; "the rain hath spoilt both the greens and the bacon," was a joke made at the time by a Magdalen wag, and this, combined with the fact that the then president died of a cold caught on the occasion, over-

threw the custom. On the l. are the President's Lodgings, where Horne wrote his 'Commentary on the Psalms.'

Wolsey entered this college 1785, and at 15 yrs. obtained the degree of B.A., whence his appellation of the Boy Bachelor. He was bursar of the college during the time that the tower was in progress. Of this, Dr. Ingram says, "It is in fact as a building, what Wolsey was as a man; and to him who cannot perceive and feel its beauties, it is in vain to attempt to describe them." In accordance with an ancient custom which originated in a requiem for Henry VII., in commemoration of his visit in 1488, glees and madrigals were always sung at the top of this tower at sunrise on May morning to usher in the spring, but these have now given way to a hymn. On this occasion the bells (called by Antony Wood the most tuneable and melodious in all these parts) are all rung, when the whole tower shakes and bends perceptibly. As the Duke of Wellington entered Oxford as Chancellor, he inquired of his companion, the late Mr. Croker, what was the structure on his right hand, pointing to the long wall which connects the tower with the rest of the college. "That is the wall which James II. ran his head against" was the answer. The resistance of the Fellows of Magdalen to the arbitrary ejection of their President, John Hough, and the infringement of their chartered rights by James, formed one of the leading causes of the Revolution of 1688, and of the expulsion of the Stuarts.

"Magdalen College, founded by Wm. Waynflete Bp. of Winchester and Lord Chancellor, is one of the most remarkable of our academical institutions. A graceful tower, on the summit of which a Latin hymn is annually chanted by choristers at the dawn of May-day, caught, far off, the eye of the traveller who

came from London. As he approached, he found that this tower arose from an embattled pile, low and irregular, yet singularly venerable, which, embowered in verdure, overhung the sluggish waters of the Cherwell. He passed through a gateway overhung by a noble oriel, and found himself in a spacious cloister, adorned with emblems of virtues and vices, rudely carved in grey stone by the masons of the 15th centy. The table of the society was plentifully spread in a stately refectory, hung with painting, and rich with fantastic carving. The services of the Church were performed, morning and evening, in a chapel which had suffered much violence from the Reformers, and much from the Puritans, but which was, under every disadvantage, a building of eminent beauty, and which has in our own time been restored with rare taste and skill. The spacious gardens along the river-side were remarkable for the size of the trees, among which, towered conspicuous, one of the vegetable wonders of the island, a gigantic oak, older by a centy., men said, than the oldest college in the University.

"The statutes of the Society ordained that the kings of England and princes of Wales should be lodged in their house. Edward IV. had inhabited the building while it was still unfinished. Richard III. had held his court there, had heard disputations in the hall, had feasted there royally, and had rewarded the cheer of his hosts by a present of fat bucks from his forests. Two heirs-apparent of the crown, who had been prematurely snatched away, Arthur, the elder brother of Henry VIII., and Henry, the elder brother of Charles I., had been members of the College. Another prince of the blood, the last and best of the Roman Catholic archbishops, the gentle Reginald Pole,

had studied there. In the time of the Civil Wars Magdalen had been true to the cause of the crown. There Rupert had fixed his quarters; and before some of his most daring enterprises, his trumpets had been heard sounding to horse through those quiet cloisters. Most of the fellows were divines, and could aid the king only by their prayers and their pecuniary contributions; but one member of the body, a doctor of civil law, raised a troop of undergraduates, and fell fighting bravely at their head against the soldiers of Essex. When hostilities had terminated, and the Roundheads were masters of England, six-sevenths of the members of the Foundation refused to make any submission to usurped authority. They were consequently ejected from their dwellings, and deprived of their revenues." — *Macaulay's Hist.*, ii. 287.

Upon the attack of James II. on this College (one of the specific grievances which brought over William III.) "many signs showed that the spirit of resistance had spread to the common people. The porter of the college threw down his keys; the butler refused to scratch Hough's name out of the buttery book, and was instantly dismissed. No blacksmith could be found in the whole city who would force the lock of the President's lodgings; it was necessary for the Commissioners to employ their own servants, who broke open the door with iron bars. The sermons which, on the following Sunday, were preached in the University ch., were full of reflections, such as stung Cartwright to the quick, though such as he could not directly resent." — *Ibid.*, 302.

It would be difficult to exaggerate the beauties of this college, which has enchanted every beholder, from James I., who declared that it was "the most absolute thing

in Oxford." In spite of the many storms which have swept over it, and the barbarous usage of the Civil Wars, when "Cromwell played on the chapel organ, while his soldiers destroyed the painted glass, and his officers diverted themselves on the bowling green," the *Chapel* is still a beautiful Gothic edifice. It was restored by *Cottingham*, 1833. The modern oak stalls are elaborately carved. In the windows of the ante-chapel, by *Eggington*, 1794, are portraits of 4 great founders, Fox, Waynflete, Wykeham, and Wolsey. The altar-screen is a fine specimen of modern workmanship. The altarpiece, "Christ bearing the Cross," by *Ribalta*, was brought from Vigo, 1702. The sculpture over the altar, "Christ appearing to Mary Magdalen," is by *Chantrey*. Close to the altar is a small oratory, which contains the tomb of the founder's father, Richard Patten, brought hither from the ruined ch. of Waynflete; there is a small statue of the founder himself, seated at his father's head. The music in this chapel is very fine, but the organ is large enough for a cathedral. That which was here in the time of the Civil Wars Cromwell liked so much, that he carried it off with him to Hampton Court. The chapel stands on one side of a cloistered Gothic quadrangle, surrounded by figures, whose mystic morals are described in 'Ædipus Magdalenensis' (in the college library), from which the following is extracted:—

"Beginning at the S.E. corner, are the Lion and Pelican, the former the emblem of Courage and Vigilance, the latter of Parental Tenderness and Affection. Both together express the complete character of a good Coll. governor, and, accordingly, are placed under the windows of the President's lodgings.

"On the rt., on the other side of the gateway, are 4 figures, viz., the Schoolmaster, the Lawyer, the

Physician, and the Divine. These are ranged outside the library, and represent the duties and business of the students. By means of learning in general, they are to be introduced to one of the three learned professions, or else, as is hinted to us by the figure with cap and bells in the corner, they must turn out Fools in the end.

"On the N. of the quadrangle, the 3 first figures represent the history of David and his conquest over the Lion and Goliath, whence we are taught not to be discouraged at any difficulties which may stand in the way, as the vigour of youth will easily enable us to surmount them. The next figure is the Hippopotamus or River Horse, carrying his young one upon his shoulders. This is the emblem of a good Tutor, or Fellow of a College, who is set to watch over the youth of the Society, and by whose prudence they are to be led through the dangers of their first entrance into the world. The figure immediately following represents Sobriety, or Temperance, that most necessary virtue of a collegiate life. The whole remaining train of figures are the vices we are instructed to avoid. Those next to Temperance are the opposite vices of Gluttony and Drunkenness. Then follow the Lucanthiropos, the Hyæna, and Panther, representing Violence, Fraud, and Treachery; the Griffin, representing Covetousness; and the next figure, Anger or Moroseness. The Dog, the Dragon, the Deer—Fattery, Envy, and Timidity; and the last 3, the Mantichora, the Boxers, and the Lamia—Pride, Contention, and Lust."

These figures were painted to honour the visit of James I.; in an old account-book is entered the expense of "a blue coat for Moses." The original entrance was by the tower on the W. side; the groined roof of its gateway deserves notice.

The *Hall* is wainscoted with oak, carved in 1541; several compartments at the end are occupied by the history of Mary Magdalen, with a portrait of Henry VIII. in the centre. Here are portraits of Henry Prince of Wales, son of James I., who was entered at this college, of Bishop Hough, Dean Colet, Cardinal Pole, Cardinal Wolsey, Addison, and Dr. Sacheverell. Besides these, the following eminent men were members:—Lilly the grammarian, Fox the martyrologist, Hammond, John Hampden, Collins, Gibbon, Horner, and Chandler. The collection of college plate contains the Founder's cup, with a statue of Mary Magdalen in flowing hair on the cover. In this hall sat King James's tyrannous commission, appointed to visit the President and Fellows and deprive the college of its rights.

"The shelves of the *Library* groan under the weight of the *Benedictine folios*, of the editions of the fathers and the collections of the middle ages, which have issued from the single library of St. Germain des Prés at Paris."—*Gibbon*.

Passing through the cloisters, and leaving on your l. the ugly row of buildings which form the most recent addition to the college, you reach, what no one should omit to see,

Magdalen Walks, a meadow attached to the college, by the side of the Cherwell, and surrounded by avenues of trees, along raised dykes. One of these, on the l., is called Addison's Walk. Pope, a constant visitor of his friend Digby in this college, mentions—

"Maudlin's learned grove."

There is also on l. a private path, bounded by the old outer wall of the city, with fine old elm-trees and deer. Two huge wych-elms are still standing, sole relics of the wood cut down by Charles during the war.

In this meadow are found, *Fritilaria meleagris*, Snakeshead; and *Arabis turrita*, Tower-wall cress.

Close by the entrance gateway, on rt., is a very picturesque fragment of Old Magdalen Hall, burnt 1820.

At the end of the High Street, opposite Magdalen, is the *Botanical* or *Physic Garden* (on the site of the ancient Jews' burial-place), entered by a gateway, designed by Inigo Jones, and ornamented with statues of Charles I. and II., which were paid for by a fine levied on Antony Wood for a libel on Lord Clarendon. The establishment of the garden is due to a bequest of Earl Danby, 1622, though Linacre commenced a garden at a much earlier period. It is well laid out under the energetic superintendence of Dr. Daubeny, the plants being arranged according to the two systems of Linnæus and Jussieu. In front of the entrance are 2 yew-trees (from the idea in Dutch gardening that they represented giants on guard), which have become celebrated in various ballads. In the Lecture-room are preserved the Herbaria of Sherard and Dillenius. There is a delightful walk by the river-side, and the small garden at the back offers a fine view over Merton Meadow. In this garden are kept some monkeys, which are well-known pets of the University, and are periodically fed by the undergraduates with boxes of cigars. Among the remarkable plants is a Mandrake.

Returning by the High Street as far as Queen's, and turning down St. Peter's Lane, you reach the Ch. of *St. Peter's-in-the-East*. Here is a beautiful Norm. chancel and a crypt, said by Asser to have been built by St. Grimbald, who wished to have been buried there; but the extreme likeness of this crypt to that of Canterbury Cathedral makes its Saxon origin im-

probable, and it is more likely that Grymbald's only connexion with it was that he lectured in the then ch. It is generally too full of water to be visited. Hence, it is said, there is a subterranean passage to Godstow, by which, according to tradition, Fair Rosamond came hither to worship, in order to avoid Queen Eleanor. The E. end of the ch. has at each corner a turret capped by a conical stone roof. This rectory was always held by princes, the last before the tithes were transferred to the College being Bogo de St. Clare, uncle of Henry III. Many halls congregated on this spot, which paid tithes to the vicar, but Wykeham, by his influence with the Pope, swept them away in founding New College, and obtained immunity from imposts. Nicholas Wyking, the vicar, waited till Wykeham's death, and then took occasion of the journey of his patron the Warden of Merton, as representative of the University, to the anti-papal Council of Constance, to plead his cause there. He reversed the papal decision, but before his return Martin V. was elected, and from him the college got its own rights, which have stood ever since.

On the N. of the choir is the ancient Lady Chapel, built about 1240, by St. Edmund of Abingdon, founder of the adjoining hall, whose scholars used to attend service here. It contains a fine tomb, with brasses of R. Atkinson, "5 times Mayor of Oxford," 1574. The Lent sermons were formerly delivered from the stone pulpit here, which had once 2 entrances, the 2nd being set apart for the University preacher. In the chancel observe the chain ornament of the roof, typical of the chains of St. Peter (St. Pietro ad Vincula).

In the churchyard are the graves of Dillenius the botanist, and of Hearne the antiquary, who was formerly M.A. of St. Edmund's

Hall (observe the appropriateness of the texts engraved upon it). There is a subterranean way hence to New College. Following the windings of St. Peter's Lane, you reach *New College*. This was founded in connexion with his other noble college at Winchester, by William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor of England, who laid the first stone, March 5, 1380, being his 55th birthday, and completed the work 1386. Froissart says of him, "At this time reigned a priest called William of Wykeham, who was so much in favour with the King of England (Edward III.) that everything was done by him and nothing done without him." The foundation maintains a warden, 70 fellows, and 10 chaplains.

In the Merton documents every college in turn is called New. The 1st court is little altered since the days of its founder; on the l. rises the *Chapel*, one of the earliest buildings erected in the Perp. style, with a detached bell-tower and cloister. The ante-chapel has a large window, in bad taste, after designs by *Sir J. Reynolds*; its other windows are filled with the original stained glass of the 14th centy., and are worthy of notice.

Here are a large collection of brasses, many of them very remarkable, chiefly of former wardens. Among them are Cranley Archbishop of Dublin, in full pontificals, with a crozier; and Yong Bp. of Gallipoli, laid down by him when living, the date being left to be filled up after his death, which was never done. The bust of Antony Aylworth (rt. of the door when entering) presents a curious minute example of costume: observe the fastening of his wristbands. The altar-screen is of composition only; the marble bas-reliefs in the compartments above are by *Westmacott*, and represent the Annunciation, Nativity, Descent from the Cross,

the Resurrection, and the Ascension. In a recess near the altar is preserved the pastoral staff of William of Wykeham, of silver-gilt, a fine specimen of mediæval art. Beneath the crook, the bishop himself is represented on his knees. The painted glass on the S. is good, of the early part of the 17th centy., by Flemish artists; that on the N., by Peckett of York, is very poor. Daily choral service is performed here as well as at Magdalen and St. John's. The W. door opens into the picturesque *Cloisters* (130 ft. by 85), planted with cypresses, and remarkable for their ribbed roof, which resembles the bottom of a boat. Here are the old pulpit and the remains of the original stone high altar, with bas-reliefs of the Annunciation, Nativity, Resurrection, &c. In 1643 the cloisters were used as a dépôt for the royal military stores. In the *Audit Room* are preserved the College Seals, of the age of the foundation, and some records nearly of the same date. Also some old pictures of saints, removed from the chapel. The collection of ancient plate and jewels is very remarkable, and includes a saltcellar and cup given by Archbishop Warham, and the jewelled mitre, glove, and pax of the founder.

The *Warden's Lodgings* contain a remarkable portrait of the Founder, supposed by Sir J. Reynolds to be an original. Till the end of the last centy. the members of New College were called to meals by a chorister crying at the garden-gate, "A manger tous seigneurs." The garden court was designed, it is said, by Wren, from the palace at Versailles.

The *Gardens* of New College are among the most beautiful in Oxford. The mound covered with shrubs, which rises opposite the gateway, produces a pleasing illusion. The garden is enclosed on three sides by the ancient walls of the city,

which, by covenant with the Founder, the college is bound to keep in repair, and they consequently present an interesting example of old civic fortification. At one end of the garden is a summer-house, of which the columns were brought from Canons, the seat of the Duke of Chandos, near Edgeware. A door in one corner of the garden opens through what was an old gate of the town, into a strip of ground called "the Slip," or *Slippe*, whence a picturesque view may be obtained of the bastions, with the fine Perp. tower and chapel. In this tower Protestant members of the College were imprisoned during the reign of Henry VIII., by its warden Dr. Loudon, and Quinby, one of the Fellows, died there of cold and starvation. This college was used as a garrison when Charles I. prepared to defend Oxford against the Parliamentary forces; and in 1651 was fortified by Colonel Draper on the side of Cromwell.

Among the illustrious members of New College were Chichele, Grocyn, Ken, Louth, Somerville, and Pitt.

At the end of New College Lane, on rt., is a mutilated Gothic doorway, now the entrance of a Billiard Room, formerly that of a Chapel of St. Catherine, which was once situated on a bastion of the City Wall.

On l. *Magdalen Hall*, College of the Martyr Tyndale (whose picture is preserved here), of Sir H. Vane, Lord Clarendon, Hobbes, John Selden, Sir Matthew Hale, and Charles James Fox.

Opposite are the *Schools*, a quadrangular building, so called from the public lectures formerly delivered there. The gateway by which the quadrangle is entered is a curious example of the Cinquecento style, and presents on the inside the 5 orders of architecture piled one above another. It was

built (1630-40) by Thomas Holt, to whom Oxford was much indebted at that period. The sitting statue (formerly gilt) in the upper story represents James I. presenting his works to Fame and the University. The wooden sceptre fell from its hand on the accession of William IV. The public examinations are held in the rooms on the ground floor, to which any one wishing to be present is admitted.

The upper floors are occupied by the *Bodleian Library*, named after its founder Sir Thomas Bodley (a retired diplomatist, b. 1544, at Exeter, d. 1612), who, "with a munificence which has rendered his name more immortal than the foundation of a family would have done, bestowed on the University a library collected by him at great cost, built a magnificent room for its reception, and bequeathed large funds for its increase." The building was completed 1606, and is described by Casaubon, who visited it in 1618, as "a work rather for a king than for a private man." In 1618 Bodley matured his plan for adding Public Schools for the University to his Library, but died within the year, and was buried in Merton Chapel March 23, on the day following which the first stone of the Schools was laid. The ground plan is in the form of the letter H. "The part (above the Divinity School, date 1480) which represents the perpendicular stem was formerly built by some prince [Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, whose collection of books, placed in it, was destroyed in the reign of Edward VI.], and is very handsome; the rest was added by Bodley with no less magnificence."—*Hallam*. Other benefactors have been, the Earl of Pembroke, Archbp. Laud, Sir Kenelm Digby, John Selden, Lord Fairfax, and Mr. Douce, who bequeathed medals, MSS., and drawings. The Library has also been augmented by purchases, and by a copy of every book

entered at Stationers' Hall, which an Act of Parliament obliges the publisher to present. It is particularly rich in Oriental literature, and possesses the MSS. collected by Dr. Clarke at Mount Athos, with a copy of Plato from the Isle of Patmos.

Strangers may be introduced by members of the University. The Library is open in summer from 9 till 4, and in winter (from Michaelmas to Lady Day) from 10 till 3. Entrance on the l. as you enter the schools from the Radcliffe Square. To avoid danger fires are prohibited, so that, though warmed with hot air, it is very cold in winter.

Sir Thomas Bodley's own books are placed in the part of the building erected by him; a venerable chamber, with a coved roof in coloured compartments, and walls hung with pictures, including several remarkable works of Vandyke. Among the curiosities of the Bodleian (some of which are placed in glass cases for the inspection of visitors) are a translation of Genesis into Anglo-Saxon by Cædmon the monk, with miniatures of the 10th or 11th centy.; MS. of the Acts of the Apostles, Greek, 11th centy.; Greek New Testament, which belonged to Ebner of Nuremberg, the binding curiously ornamented with ivory carvings; Terence, of 12th centy., with vignettes. Some of the MSS. are adorned with precious miniatures by Albert Durer, Van Eyck, Hemling, or their scholars. A fine original drawing by Vandyke, a head of Junius, merits notice. Douce's collection includes the Prayer-book of Marie de Medicis from Cologne.

At the end of the room is some curious historical stained glass, representing,—the Penance of Henry II. in the Chapter-house at Canterbury; Edward II., as king of Scotland, receiving the homage of the barons and abbots; the Marriage of Henry VI. with Margaret of Anjou.

Higher up on the library staircase is the *Picture Gallery* (length N. and S. 129½ by 24½, E. 158½ by 24), which contains many curious historical portraits. Among them are almost all the founders of colleges. Sir Thomas Bodley, *Jansen*; Sir Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckherst, William Herbert Earl of Pembroke, *Vandyke*; Selden, *Mytens*; Charles XII. of Sweden, *Schröter*; Charles Duke of Grafton, *Reynolds*; Mary Queen of Scots, *Zuccherro*; Lord Burleigh on his mule, in his robes as Lord High Treasurer; Handel, *Hudson*; Payne the architect teaching his son, *Reynolds*. Also a curious picture of Duns Scotus (the original of "dunce"), who is said to have vowed that he would transcribe the whole of the Bible without eating or drinking, and died when near the end of Revelations. There is also a fine bronze statue of the Earl of Pembroke, who was Chancellor of the University from 1616-30, by Le Sueur; a chair made from the ship of Admiral Drake with an inscription by Cowley; and some models of classic edifices; but the great curiosity of this gallery is the veritable lantern of Guy Fawkes, which is preserved in a glass case in one of the windows.

On the ground floor of N. side of the quadrangle are the *Arundel Marbles*, brought from Asia Minor by Thomas Howard Earl of Arundel, and presented to the University by his grandson in 1677. They contain the famous Parian Chronicle.

The door on the rt. of the quadrangle leads into the Radcliffe Square, in whose centre is the Radcliffe Library, while the E. side is occupied by All Souls, the S. by St. Mary's, the W. by Brazenose College, and the N. by the Schools. "The assemblage of buildings in that quarter," says H. Walpole, *though no single one is beautiful, always struck me with singular*

pleasure, as it conveys such a vision of large edifices, unbroken by private houses, as the mind is apt to entertain of renowned cities that exist no longer."

The *Radcliffe Library*, a handsome rotunda, with a dome, on an octagon base (diam. 100 ft., height 140 ft.), is the best work of Gibbs, 1749. It is named after its founder Dr. Radcliffe, the physician of William III. and Queen Anne, who is remarkable as having foretold to a day not only his own death, but those of all the royal personages and many others whom he attended. He left 40,000*l.* for its construction, and smaller sums for a librarian, purchase of books, &c. A noble domed hall (height 46 ft. from pavement), in which the allied sovereigns dined 1814, occupies the interior, and is filled with books on medicine and science. Over the door is the portrait of the founder by *Sir Godfrey Kneller*, the only original likeness extant. The *panorama* of Oxford from the roof well repays the ascent.

Brazenose College, on the W. side of the square, is so called from being erected on the site of a hall which had a knocker in the shape of a ring fastened in a brazen nose. It still retains a brazen nose over the gate. Another derivation given for this name is the *Brasinium*, or brew-house, attached to the Hall, said to have been built by Alfred on this very spot. The College was founded by Smith Bp. of Lincoln, and Sir R. Sutton, 1521. It has a picturesque quadrangle, once "a garden, which was a delightful and pleasant shade in summer-time, but was cut down by direction of the Principal and some others, purely to turn it into a grass-plot and erect some silly statue there."—*Hearne*. "The roof of the *Chapel*, which is a kind of hammer-beam, with fan vaulting above, was brought from the chapel of St. Mary's College, which formerly stood

in the Corn-market, founded by Henry VI., 1435."—*O. T.* There is a fine *Hall* with some curious old portraits, and some interesting manuscripts in the *Library*. Bp. Heber inhabited the ground rooms on the rt. of No. 4 staircase.

Returning to the School-quadrange, and entering the vaulted vestibule called the "Pig-market" (1603), from its being so desecrated after the Reformation, you reach the *Divinity School*, built 1427-80, as a theological lecture-room. "Its peculiar feature is the stone roof, which consists of bold 4 centred arches, the spandrels of which are filled with tracery, and the spaces between these ribs are groined with 2 rows of pendants, finishing below in small niches, which reach much below the ribs, and form 3 arches across the span."—*Rickman*. Here the Bishops "Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer were cited to appear for examination; when Ridley at first stood bareheaded, but as soon as he heard the Cardinal named and the Pope's holiness he put on his cap." The House of Commons met in the *Divinity School* 1625, while the N. end of the picture gallery was occupied by the Peers. It was afterwards used as a storehouse for corn, and was not restored till the beginning of the last cent. Miss Blandy the patricide was tried and condemned here in 1752. The doorway on the N. under one of the windows, was made by Wren, for the convenience of processions to the theatre. The door at the W. end of this room admits the visitor to the *Convocation House* (1639), where the degrees are conferred and the business of the University is transacted. The Vice-Chancellor's Court is held in the ante-chamber.

Close to this is the *Theatre*, built by Wren, at the expense of Archbishop Sheldon, in 1669—a happy imitation of ancient theatres, especially that of Marcellus at Rome.

The iron railing in front of it is varied by colossal heads, but no one knows whom they are intended to represent. Its internal dimensions are 80 ft. by 70; its roof, an ingenious geometrical construction, is perfectly flat, and, as the classic theatres had no roof, this is designed to represent a canvas stretched over gilt cordage. It was painted by *Streater*. In this building the annual "commemoration" (when the Act Term has ended, usually in June) of benefactors to the university is held, prize compositions are recited from pulpits in fanciful imitation of a Roman rostrum, and honorary degrees are conferred on distinguished persons. Here in 1814 the Emperor Alexander of Russia, the King of Prussia, Blücher, the Cossack Platoff, and others received the honour, and were arrayed in the red robe of doctors. On such occasions the area below is filled with Masters of Arts and strangers; the dignitaries of the University and more distinguished visitors occupy the lower seats of the semicircle; behind them are ranged the ladies, while the galleries are crowded with undergraduates, who keep up a perpetual storm of applause or hisses, not only on persons present, but on political and other noted personages, even at a distance, as their names are called out at random by any of their own body. This practice has now become a serious interruption to the business of the day, which is merely an innovation of late years.

Not many yards from the Theatre, on the rt., is the *Old Clarendon Printing Office*, erected 1711, by Sir John Vanbrugh, from the profits of the sale of Lord Clarendon's 'History of the Rebellion,' given exclusively and for ever to the University by the author's son. Since 1830, when the new printing office was completed, it has been devoted to other purposes, and contains the

Geological Museum. Many of the specimens here deposited have a peculiar interest as illustrating the researches and discoveries of its founder Dr. Buckland. The most conspicuous parts of the collection are the numerous and well-selected examples of many fossil quadrupeds from the caverns of Germany, France, and the British Isles. In the investigation of these ossiferous caves no person was so distinguished as Dr. Buckland for industry and sagacity. The remarkable speculations which he advanced concerning Kirkdale and other caves have been since for the most part confirmed, and are well illustrated by the specimens preserved in the Museum.

The Local Geology of Oxfordshire has also furnished some of the more conspicuous fossils in the cases. Stonesfield in particular has yielded the huge Megalosaurus, the flying Pterodactylus, and the small Marsupial Mammalia whose best analogues are now in Australia. Shot-over Hill has been ransacked for the enormous bones of the Plesiosaurus, and many other interesting species. Lyne Regis, another of Dr. Buckland's haunts, is represented by the Plesiosaurs and Ichthyosaurs of much interest. The footprints of Cheirotherium and other reptiles are seen on the sandstones of Lochmaben, and a vast amount of Bovine and Elephantine reliquiae, with bones of Rhinoceros, Hippopotamus, Megatherium, and other monsters of the earlier time, make the aspect of these rooms characteristic of the mind of their former director.

The *Mineral Collection* is not very large, but it contains some specimens of variety, many of uncommon beauty, and several of extraordinary magnificence.

The *Pull of King Henry VII.* is preserved as a relic in the Clarendon.

Hence Park Street leads to *Wadham College*, founded in 1613 on the

site of an Augustin monastery, by Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham, after some hesitation as to whether they should not found a Roman Catholic College at Venice instead. The Royal Society had its origin in the meetings of a number of learned and inquiring men, such as Dr. Wilkins, Seth Ward, Sir C. Wren, Dr. Sprat, &c., held (1650-59) in the room over the gateway. The *Chapel*, which is superior to the rest of the building, was built by a body of Somersetshire masons, Gothic architecture lingering in that county longer than elsewhere. It has a fine E. window by *Van Linge*. The *Hall* (length 82 ft.) is handsome, and has an open timber roof, "which is curious, as showing how, while the Gothic form was retained, the details were altered to suit the taste of the times." It contains a remarkable picture of Admiral Blake. In the Common Room is the portrait, by *Turman*, of "Mother George," whose story is told by Antony Wood, and who lived till the age of 120 in Black Boy Lane, St. Giles'. The chief ornament of the College is its secluded and beautiful garden (reached by a door in the corner near the chapel), containing some fine cedar-trees.

Beyond Wadham are the *Parks*, so called from having been the place where Cromwell posted his cannon during the siege of Oxford. The cross-path, which still remains, is that by which Charles II. used to diverge with his dogs to avoid meeting the heads of Colleges when he saw them approaching.

Here is the new and nearly finished *Museum*, which is intended to illustrate the sciences of Astronomy, Geometry, Experimental Physics, Chemistry, Mineralogy, Geology, Zoology, Anatomy, Physiology, and Medicine. The building was begun in 1855 from a Gothic design of Messrs. Deane and Woodward. Its architecture, which was

long the subject of discussion before the building was begun, is still a constant topic either for praise or abuse among the Oxford residents and visitors.

The W., or principal front, though richly ornamented in detail, is almost universally condemned from its general flatness, and absence of any distinctive feature or outline; its long array of Gothic windows being unbroken in their uniformity, and even the principal entrance being perfectly flat with the rest of the building. The E. front is left without any ornament, in order that the museum be easily added to on that side, as occasion requires. On the N. and S. are outlying buildings for anatomical and chemical purposes. At the S.E. angle is the residence of Professor Phillips, the Curator of the Museum.

The principal entrance leads to the central quadrangle, which is covered by a glass roof, supported on cast-iron columns, ornamented with (tawdry?) coloured leafage. This court is surrounded by 2 galleries, with open arcades, which furnish, on either story, a ready means of communication to every part of the collection. In each of the arcades are 7 piers forming 8 openings, and carrying 8 discharging arches, within which are 2 lesser arches, resting on their outer sides on the piers, and at their junction with each other on a shaft with a capital and base. On the upper story there is a similar arrangement, excepting that, the piers and shafts being of less height, though of the same number, 4 arches supported by 3 shafts are inserted in the horizontal space between each pier. The shafts of the pillars have been selected, under the direction of Professor Phillips, as examples of the more important rocks of the British Isles: thus those on the W. are of the granitic series; those on the E. of the metamorphic; N. calcareous

[B. B. & O.]

rocks chiefly from Ireland; S. the English marbles. The capitals and bases represent various groups of plants and animals, illustrative of different climates and various epochs. Some of the capitals (by the O'Shea family), especially those of the English ferns, and flora, are of a delicacy and beauty worthy of Venice. The corbels, in front of the piers, are to be occupied by statues of those who have been famous in each of the sciences which the Museum is intended to illustrate: thus Mathematics are represented by Archimedes, Euclid, Leibnitz, and Newton; Astronomy by Hipparchus and Galileo; Geology by Cuvier; Chemistry by Lavoisier, Cavendish, Davy; Biology by Aristotle, Linnaeus, John Hunter; and Medicine by Hippocrates, Sydenham, and Harvey; while Bacon, Volta, Cæsted, Priestley, Watt, and Stephenson are introduced as general benefactors of science. 5 of these last statues were presented by the Queen, Aristotle and Cuvier by the Undergraduates, Euclid by the Freemasons.

The arcade is surrounded by the main block of the building, in which each department possesses its lecture-room and its necessary work-rooms and laboratories. Hither and to the central court will be removed the collections of Geology, Mineralogy, and Natural History, now deposited in the Clarendon and the Ashmolean Museum. On the N. is an open yard for the Anatomical and Zoological departments, with dissecting rooms beyond it; on the S. is the Chemical and Experimental Philosophy Yard, with a Chemical Laboratory, for which the model was furnished by the abbot's kitchen at Glastonbury.

The *Upper Floor* has a large lecture-room capable of containing 600 persons, and along the W. front the reading-rooms and library, to which it is hoped that the collection of books now in the Radcliffe may

ultimately be removed. On this floor also will be arranged the Entomological Collections of Mr. Hope, now in the Taylor Buildings.

Returning to the front of the Old Clarendon, and proceeding down the Broad Street, on the rt. is the *Ashmolean Museum*. This collection, begun by the 2 Tradescants, Dutchmen, gardeners and botanists of Lambeth, about the time of James I., was bequeathed by Elias Ashmole, son of a saddler at Lichfield, to the University, 1692, on condition that a building should be erected for its reception. It contains some curious old portraits: Thomas Earl of Arundel; Sir John Suckling, when young, *Dobson*; John Selden; Elizabeth Woodville; Oliver Cromwell; Old Parr at 152; Dr. Plot, &c. Here are the books of Lilly the astrologer. This collection had been reduced to a few moth-eaten skins, dusty bones, and a large magnet, when refounded by the brothers Duncan of New College, whose portraits, by *Phillips*, are appropriately placed near the entrance.

In the natural history department it is strongest in the collection of birds, and possesses one curiosity which is not to be found elsewhere, viz., the head and leg of the Dodo, a bird of the order *Grallæ*, which existed in the island of Mauritius, but is now extinct. This specimen was obtained complete by Tradescant, but no more now remains of it. There is also a foot in the British Museum.

There is an interesting case of historical relics, which include King Alfred's jewel, an ornament of gold, nearly in the form of a very small battle-dore, enamelled, set with coloured stones, and cased in crystal, decidedly of Anglo-Saxon work, found in the Isle of Athelney, where he was so long concealed during the Danish troubles—it bears a Saxon inscription, "Alfred me ordered to be made;" the state sword given

by the Pope to Henry VIII.; the "broad-brimmed hat" in which Bradshaw, president of the court which tried Charles I., "bullied" when he passed sentence—it is lined with iron; a Staffordshire clog, or Anglo-Saxon almanac, being a stick divided with lines and notches; King Henry VIII.'s glove; Queen Elizabeth's watch; Oliver Cromwell's watch of silver, oval in shape; his privy seal; the ring of Cardinal York, the last of the Stuarts; Charles I.'s spurs; the key of the prison Bocardo; an ancient peg-tankard of maple-wood, curiously carved; picture of the Crucifixion in humming-birds' feathers made in Mexico; model of the calendar-stone of Mexico; a brank or gag for the tongue contained within a head-piece, of iron, used formerly for punishing scolds. The greater part of the Ashmolean collections will shortly be removed to the New Museum.

Proceeding on the l. is *Exeter College* (entrance in the "Turl" or Passage), founded, 1314, by Walter Stapleton, Bp. of Exeter, who was afterwards murdered in the streets of London for his zeal in the cause of Edward II. This is one of the largest colleges in Oxford, the hall being second only to Christ Ch. The more picturesque parts of the building have recently been demolished, to make way for a new Library and a very beautiful *Chapel* by *Scott*, in imitation of the Sainte Chapelle at Paris. This is perhaps the most remarkable modern building in the city, and is well worthy of a visit. Its thin small spire is conspicuous from a great distance. The college possesses a pretty but private garden, at the corner of which is a large chestnut-tree, overhanging the adjacent street (Lincoln Lane), which is called Heber's tree, from its shading the window of the opposite room in Brazenose, which was occupied by him. Here also is "Dr. Kenni-

cott's fig-tree," so called because, when the figs were ripe, to prevent any one taking them, Dr. Kennicott put a label on the tree, inscribed "Dr. Kennicott's fig-tree," which an undergraduate, coming afterwards and eating up all the figs, altered into "a Fig for Dr. Kennicott."

Opposite Exeter, in Lincoln Lane, is *Jesus College*, founded exclusively for Welshmen by Hugh ap Rice, 1571, under the patronage of Elizabeth, and thus remarkable as being the first Protestant college.

The Chapel, noteworthy as the only one in Oxford which has a double chancel, contains the tomb of Sir Leoline Jenkins, the great jurist, who was the chief benefactor of the college; also, the monument of Eubulus Thelwall, who built the Principal's House; the grave of Robert Dormer Earl of Carnarvon, slain in the battle of Newbury; and a fine copy of Guido's picture of the Archangel Michael, in the Capuchini at Rome. Service is conducted here in Welsh on Wednesdays and Fridays. Over the door is the appropriate motto, "Ascendit oratio, descendit gratia." The Hall contains a curious portrait and bust of Queen Elizabeth, under whose auspices Ap Rice founded the college, and a fine picture of the mother of Eubulus Thelwall, with him as a child. In the library are the MS. of Lord Herbert of Cherbury, and a prayer to the Virgin, which belonged to Margaret of Anjou; but its chief curiosity is "Y Llyfr Coch," or the Red Book, which contains the early Celtic legends relating to King Arthur and his round table, which, christianised by the Provençal romancers, formed the foundation of the many ballads and legends which afterwards sprang up.

Lower down on the l. is *Lincoln College*, founded, 1427, by Richard Fleming Bp. of Lincoln, as a bulwark against Wycliffism, of which

in early life he was the zealous supporter, but afterwards the bitter enemy. The chief benefactor, however, was Bp. Rotheram, who was staying in this college on a visit, when the then rector, Dr. Tristoppe, preached so touching a sermon on the wants of his college, from the text "Behold and visit this vine, &c."—Ps. lxxx. 14, 15, that the Bishop, with difficulty restraining his emotion till the discourse was ended, afterwards richly endowed it. In gratitude for this event, the vine is carefully cultivated at Lincoln to this day, and the walls of the inner quadrangle are covered with its branches.

The *Chapel* contains some curious old glass, said to have been brought from Italy, 1629, by Bp. Williams, Lord Keeper; the E. window is very remarkable, as giving a perfect series of types and antitypes. The seats are surmounted by ancient carved figures. In the ante-chapel is a pulpit from which Wesley preached. In the *Library* is a MS. of Wickliffe's Bible. Froude mentions that Lollards were imprisoned in the Treasury at Lincoln.

The *Rector's Lodgings* were built 1465, by Bishop Beckington, whose rebus remains several times repeated on the walls. Till the Commission, this was the only college whose meetings were called chapters, Lincoln having been founded as a college of priests attached to the Ch. of All Saints.

The most remarkable Fellow of Lincoln was John Wesley, who here became the leader of his peculiar society, "the Holy Club" as they were at first called. He is described as "going hence, through a ridiculing crowd, to receive the weekly sacrament at St. Mary's, with his hair remarkably long, and flowing loose upon his shoulders." Formerly any Fellow of this college committing an offence was sent for and corrected, and the "corrector"

of Lincoln holds a small scourge in sign of office to this day.

Near this is *All Saints' Ch.*, built from a design of Dean Aldrich. Tradition tells that in the churchyard of the original Ch., St. Edmund of Abingdon (Archbp. of Canterbury) was one day preaching, when a violent storm came on. The people began to take flight, but St. Edmund implored them to stay, and prayed that he might be allowed to finish his sermon without interruption; after which, though in the neighbouring High Street torrents of rain ran like a river, not a drop fell in the churchyard. How St. Edmund "preached in Alle Halewene churchyerd," is described in an old ballad, temp. Edward I. A court running out of the High Street near this is called "Amsterdam," from having been once inhabited by the Dutch students.

Returning to the broad street on the rt. is *Trinity College*, which owes its foundation, in 1554, to the anxiety of a layman, Sir Thomas Pope, for the restoration of the Roman Catholic religion. It was built upon the site of a Benedictine society called Durham College, which inherited the famous but lost library of Richard Angerville, known as Philobiblos. It retires back from the street, and has an iron railing in front. The buildings are of Italian architecture. The *Hall*, fitted up 1772, contains portraits of the Founder, by *F. Potter*, a member of the College (1637), Archbishop Sheldon, Lord North, Earl of Chatham, and Thomas Warton. Besides these, Chillingworth, Lord Somers, John Evelyn, Sir John Denham, Ludlow and Ireton the republicans, were educated here. In the *Library* is some curious ancient painted glass. This was a favourite retreat of Dr. Johnson, and a copy of Baskerville's Virgil is shown as his gift. An ancient chalice is preserved here, brought from St. Alban's

Abbey, which remarkable building Pope was the means of saving from destruction. The *Chapel* was rebuilt by Dr. Bathurst. It contains some fine carvings by Gibbons, and the tomb of the Founder and his lady, who were removed hither from St. Stephen's, Walbrook. There is a pleasant garden attached to Trinity, with a trellised lime-walk of great celebrity.

At the corner of the green in front of Trinity stands *Kettel Hall*, the most picturesque specimen of domestic architecture in Oxford. It was called after its founder, as its predecessor on the same site, Perilous Hall, was called after its founder Perles. Dr. Kettel was celebrated for his feats of bodily strength. "He was accustomed to attend the daily disputations in the hall of Trinity, where he sate with a black fur muff and an hour-glass before him to time the exercise. One day, when Cromwell was in possession of Oxford, a halberdier rushed in, and, breaking his hour-glass with his halberd, seized his muff and threw it in his face. The Doctor instantly seized the soldier by the collar and made him prisoner, and the halberd was carried out before him in triumph."—*Dr. Aldrich*. This hall was originally intended as a lodging for students, but is now a private dwelling. Dr. Johnson resided here for 5 weeks when visiting Oxford.

Further on the rt. is the gloomy front of *Baliol College*, which, till 1772, possessed a terrace walk shaded by lofty elms, similar to that at St. John's. It appears, from a document of a Bishop of Durham, that a powerful nobleman, summoned, for some transgression, to be scourged at the doors of Durham Cathedral, was allowed to commute this punishment, by giving an endowment to poor scholars from Durham. This was John Baliol, and the origin of the foundation of Baliol College. John Baliol's bene-

faction was confirmed by his widow Devorgilla, who also founded Sweetheart Abbey (*Suave Cordium*) in Galloway, in order to deposit her husband's heart there. No part of the existing building is older than 1431.

The fan-tracery of the entrance gateway, 1494, the canopied doorway of the chapel, 1529, and a fine oriel window in the Master's Lodgings, deserve notice. The modern *Chapel*, the 4th in succession since the building of the College, was designed by *Butterfield*, and erected in 1858. It is built, in questionable taste, of alternate layers of red and white stone, and is exceedingly gorgeous in its internal decorations.

The gridiron, carved in various parts of the college, is a memorial of its early possession (1294) of lands in the parish of St. Lawrence in London.

Wycliffe was master of this college; other eminent members were Tunstal Bishop of Durham, Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, Parsons the Jesuit, John Evelyn, Kyrle the Man of Ross, Adam Smith, Southey, and Lockhart.

As Oriel was the first to open its fellowships, so this college was the first to open its scholarships, and under the auspices of its late master, Dr. Jenkyns, it reached its present celebrity as the most frequented seat of education in Oxford.

Beyond on the rt. is *St. Mary Magdalen Ch.*, date Edward II., which contains a fine font, and near its N. entrance a relic of the Reformation in the heavy oak door brought from the prison of the bishops in Bocardo. It retains rudely carved portraits of Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley. On the outside of the tower is a figure of St. Mary Magdalene.

Behind the Ch. rises the *Martyrs' Memorial*, a Gothic monumental cross, erected, 1851, from designs of *Scott*, after the model of Queen

Eleanor's crosses, with 3 statues by *Weekes*, to commemorate the fate of the 3 bishops, near the place where they suffered.

The actual spot was till lately supposed to have been in the Town Ditch, called Canditch (*Candida fossa*), from the clear stream which flowed through it, and close beneath an old tower called the *Martyrs' Tower*, which may still be seen in the gardens behind Broad Street. It was then thought that the cross in the pavement opposite Balliol College merely marked the spot in the street immediately *opposite* to that on which the Martyrs suffered. In the recent construction of a sewer in Broad Street, the workmen came on the ends of 2 statues in the line of the street, one of them being immediately or very nearly under the stone cross in the pavement, opposite the master's door of Balliol College. A heading or tunnel was driven into the soil, with openings at intervals, in the roof of one of which a stake (now in the possession of the Rev. J. Clutterbuck of Long Wittenham) was found about 6 ft. below the surface of the street, surrounded with a large quantity of blackened earth and portions of charred wood—the upper end had evidently been subjected to the action of fire. These circumstances led to an investigation, by which it has been discovered that the water-line would have prevented any fire being kindled in the ditch at the time of the martyrdom, the ditch being then probably filled with water to a considerable depth, whence it is now thought the actual site of the stake is that marked by the cross, to which tradition originally assigned it.

The bishops were imprisoned in Bocardo, which was the principal N. gate of the city, and which crossed the Corn Market, being attached to the old and still existing tower of St. Michael's Ch. Their cell was

in the room over the gateway, which had in early times been used as a muniment room, but served as a common prison for debtors after the fortifications fell into disuse. The debtors were in the habit of letting down from one of the windows a hat, to receive charity, with the cry of "Pray remember the poor Bocardo birds." After being imprisoned here for a short time, Ridley was taken to the house of Mr. Trysh, and Latimer to that of one of the aldermen of the city, but they were all suffered to eat together in Bocardo (their food being bread, ale, cheese and pears), and Cranmer remained in that prison till his death—only being permitted to go thence to play at bowls in the Dean's garden at Christ Ch. It is said that he witnessed the burning of his fellow-bishops from the top of the neighbouring ch. tower, whence, "looking after them, and devoutly falling upon his knees, he prayed to God to strengthen their faith and patience in that their last but painful passage."—*Strype*. He suffered burning himself on the same spot 5 months after, "never stirring or crying all the while."

The Martyrs' Memorial forms one extremity of *St. Giles's*, a boulevard of trees, much resembling those in foreign towns, with quaint rambling old houses, among which one (that on the rt., near the ch., with the stone pillars before it) was the town residence of Sarah Duchess of Marlborough, Queen Sarah as she was called. At the further extremity is *St. Giles's Ch.*, chiefly 12th cent., with a beautiful font of Henry III.

Beyond on l. is the *Radcliffe Infirmary*, founded October 1770 by Dr. Radcliffe (see p. 157). The Radcliffe sermon in Commemoration week is preached in aid of this institution. Adjoining this is the *Observatory*, founded 1772-97, by the munificence of the same great benefactor, and presided over, till lately,

by the late eminent and lamented Johnson. The interior can only be visited by a special order from the Observer. It contains a Helio-meter, for taking the measure of the heavenly bodies.

On the rt. of *St. Giles's Street* is *St. John's College*, with a terrace walk in front, shaded by a row of elms, a peculiarity which was formerly shared by *Baliol*. This college was engrafted, in 1557, by Sir Thomas White (the son of a clothier in Reading), upon a Cistercian monastery founded by Chichele. It is closely connected with Merchant Taylors' School in London. Parts of the original edifice still remain, among which is the gateway, with the statue of St. Bernard over the entrance, 1437.

The second quadrangle, of Palladian architecture, was built by Inigo Jones, for Archbishop Laud. Along two sides of it run cloisters, resting on pillars of Bletchington marble. The gateways, adorned with classic pillars in the cinquecento style, are surmounted by bronze statues of Charles I. and his queen Henrietta Maria.

Sir Thomas White, the founder, and Archbishop Laud, who, from being born at Reading, entered here on the foundation of his fellow-townsmen and afterwards became one of the chief benefactors of the college, are buried without monuments beneath the altar of the *Chapel*, which has been admirably restored by Blore in its original Gothic style. Here also is preserved the heart of Dr. Rawlinson (buried in *St. Giles's ch.*), with the inscription "Ubi thesauris ibi cor." The *Library* in the inner quadrangle is very curious. It contains a portrait of Laud, the cap in which he was beheaded, and the walking-stick which supported him to the scaffold. There is also a curious portrait of Charles I., with the whole book of Psalms written in his hair

and the lines of his face. In this apartment Charles I., his queen, the Elector Palatine, and Prince Rupert were entertained by Laud with a superb banquet, and after it by a play or interlude, composed and acted by members of the college (1636). In this room it is reported that the ghost of Laud still walks at night, carrying his head in his hand.

St. John's Gardens, perhaps the most beautiful in the University, 5 acres in extent, were laid out by Brown and Repton. They are rich in trees and are admirably kept up. Their beauty is much enhanced by the S. front of the college, which includes the library, with its venerable oriels and quaint stone gables. In the small court opposite the President's lodgings is an elm-tree, believed to be the descendant of one near which Sir Thomas White was warned in a dream to found his college.

Nearly opposite St. John's are the *Taylor Buildings* and *University Galleries*, erected in the classic style, 1841, from the designs of *C. R. Cockerell, R.A.*

This building owes its origin to two bequests—of Sir Robert Taylor for a foundation to teach modern European languages, and of Dr. Randolph for a building to contain the Pomfret marbles and other works of art. The E. wing facing St. John's is the Taylor Institution, and the statues surmounting it are those of France, Italy, Germany, and Spain, whose languages are here taught.

The University Galleries face Beaumont-st., and the collections at present deposited here consist of all the original models of the busts and statues executed by Sir F. Chantrey. They are the munificent gift of his widow, Lady Chantrey, and include likenesses of most of the great men of his time. Here are his statue of General Washington (for America),

the 2 sleeping children of Lichfield, James Watt, Bishop Heber, George Canning, Mrs. Jordan, &c. It is to be observed these are the original clay models, moulded by the sculptor himself, and often more happy than the marble copies. The Pomfret marbles deposited here are very poor; the best is a statue of Cicero: "a work of happy conception, of peculiar and fine cast of drapery, and admirable workmanship."—*Waagen*. A sculpture of *Nisroch* from Nineveh was the gift of Mr. Layard.

The true lover of art will study with delight the original drawings by Raphael (157) and Michael Angelo (53), a collection unequalled in the country, which are placed in the upper rooms. Among them may be recognised many of the sketches for their most celebrated pictures, of which the following are among the most remarkable:—

Raphael.—5. The Almighty surrounded with angels: a study for the ceiling picture of the Burning Bush, in the Vatican. 9. Study for the Disputa, executed with the silver point, on tinted paper. 17. Study coeval with, if not for, the Spasalizio. 19. Study for "the Madonna in green," in the Belvedere, Vienna. 21. Study for the St. George in St. Petersburg—silver point. 21. Study for the tapestry of the Adoration of the Kings, in the Vatican, which proves that composition to be from Raphael's own hand. 27. Men in combat—pen-drawing—supposed to be for the victory of Ostia, in the Vatican. 29. Study for the Rape of Helen. 46. Study for the Phrygian Sibyl, in Sta. Maria della Pace, at Rome. 50. Study of Minerva, and 3 other statues, for the School of Athens. 51. Portrait of Raphael, at age of 16: a real treasure. 71. Entrance of Cardinal Giovanni de' Medici into Florence, probably executed by Francesco Penni. 75. Tobit and

the Angel: study for that part of Perugino's altarpiece in the Certosa of Pavia which Raphael executed: it is now in the possession of Duke Melzi, at Milan. 86. Sketch for the upper part of the Disputa, in 2 rows: a most masterly pen-drawing, in bistre, 1509. 89. Various studies for the Entombment, 1507. 93. Study from nature for 2 of the figures on the steps of the School of Athens, 1510. 95. 7 young men drinking wine at a table, 1508. 103. Probably St. Stephen: admirably drawn. 110. A sketch for the tapestry occasionally hung in the Sistine Chapel, 1515 or 1516. 115. Hercules Gaulois, or Eloquence. 120. The two undraped figures from the Borgheze Entombment: very interesting. 121. A beautiful pen sketch of the Virgin and Child with the Baptist, for the Madonna del Cardellino, in the Tribune at Florence: instead of a bird, a book is here given and the Baptist is in a quiet position. 144. The Presentation, said to be by Giulio Romano. 160. Studies for the Heliodorus.

Michael Angelo.—1. The Last Judgment: admirably executed with pen and bistre. 3. The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, executed by the miniature-painter, Don Giulio Clovio. 26. A study for one of the Sibyls in the Sistine Chapel. 27. A study from nature for the statue of David, Palazzo Vecchio. 28. Study for the Jonah of the Sistine Chapel. 29. Studies of horses, for the Conversion of St. Paul, in the Pauline Chapel. 42. A study for the Adam in the Sistine Chapel. 48. Studies for the raising the Brazen Serpent, Sistine Chapel. 50. Michael Angelo and his friend Marc Antonio della Torre, occupied on anatomical studies. Study of 3 figures for the Conversion of St. Paul. 56. Study for the Last Judgment. 71. Studies for the tombs of the Medici.—*Vaagen*.

These pictures formed part of the

collection of Sir Thomas Lawrence, and were purchased for the University at the price of 7000*l.*, of which Lord Eldon contributed 4100*l.* An excellent catalogue may be had of the door-keeper. The *Paintings* hitherto assembled here are of little value. There is a good copy, however, of Raphael's School of Athens; a cartoon of the Holy Family by Razzi (Il Sodoma); portrait of Mrs. Bradyll, *Sir J. Reynolds*; Thornhill, *Hogarth*—also his original sketches for the Enraged Musician, Inn Yard, and Connoisseur.

Here is the entrance of *Beaumont Street*, which name commemorates the site of the *Palace* (de Bello Monte), built by Henry I., 1153, in order that he might watch over the interests of the University. This was built outside the town, and was entered by the king's coming round the walls, in order that they might avoid the curse of St. Frideswide. Henry II. resided here during a great part of his reign, and hence he repaired to visit Fair Rosamond in the adjacent bower of Woodstock. Here also Richard Cœur-de-Lion first saw the light. The palace was granted by Edward II. to the Carmelite Friars in fulfilment of a vow made in the panic of Bannockburn to a friar who was with him, though it continued to be the residence of monarchs visiting Oxford. This friar was probably from Oxford, for the S. aisle of St. Mary Magdalene Ch. was built from a similar vow, also at Bannockburn. The memorial of this event is kept up in the name of the "Friar's Entry," opposite St. Mary Magdalene, formerly the only approach to Worcester College. The refectory was pulled down only in 1596, when the materials were used in building Archbishop Laud's library at St. John's. The grounds extended to the square now occupied by the city gaol,

which was formerly a bowling-green. The opening of Beaumont Street and introduction of Worcester to the civilized world was effected by its being the price asked by Worcester from St. John's for its support of their candidate (Sir J. Nichols) in Parliament.

At the end of this street is *Worcester College*, founded 1714, on the site of Gloucester Hall, which still remains in the low buildings on the S. side of the quadrangle, and which is said to have been "first built by Dr. Woodruff for the education of Greek Protestants."—*Pointer*. In the *Library* is Inigo Jones's copy of Palladio's works, with notes and sketches by his own hand. The extensive *Gardens* are prettily laid out, with a fine piece of water. Thomas Allen and Sir Kenelm Digby were members of this college.

Close to Worcester Gardens, on the opposite side of the canal, are the remains of *Reuley Abbey* (the Water-Meadow, from Rhe, a stream, and lye, meadow), founded for an abbot and 15 Cistercian monks, by Edmund Earl of Cornwall, grandson of King John. It is situated at the N. end of the Isle of Oseney. The watergate of the abbey, a Gothic archway, is still to be seen.

In this direction, at the extremity of the town, with a long classic façade, is the *University Press*, completed 1830, chiefly devoted to the printing of Bibles and Prayer-books. It is an interesting sight to strangers.

The Corn-market, which connects St. Giles's with St. Aldate's, contains on the l. the old tower of *St. Michael's Ch.* (from which Cranmer witnessed the execution of Latimer and Ridley), built of rubble, whose long and short stone quoins indicate its great age, early Norman if not Saxon.

rt., approached by the Star Passage, is the *Oxford Union Club*, founded 1825, "for the maintenance of a library, reading-rooms, and

writing-rooms; and the promotion of debates on any subject not involving theological questions." The Society, under the name of the Union, first held its meetings in the College rooms of the different members in rotation; next in those of Mr. Talboys, near the Angel; next in the house of Mr. Vincent in the High Street, till in 1852 the present premises were purchased by the Society. The *Debating Room* (length 62 ft.; breadth 33; height 47) was built, 1856, under *Messrs. Woodward and Deane*, and is a fine specimen of modern Venetian Gothic, of red brick, with stone dressings.

Over the entrance is a stone carving by *Alex. Monro*, representing the Institution of the Round Table. The ceiling is richly painted, and the upper story is surrounded by strange-looking frescoes of the acts of King Arthur and his knights in the following order:—1, The Education of Arthur, by Merlin, *Riviere*; 2, Arthur's Wedding, with the incident of the White Hart and Brachet, *Riviere*; 3, Sir Lancelot's vision of the Sangraal, *Rosetti*; 4, Sir Pelleas and the Lady Ettarde, *Prinsep*; 5, How King Arthur received his sword Excalibur from the Lady of the Lake, *Pollen*; 6, King Arthur's first victory with the sword Excalibur, *Riviere*; 7, How Sir Palomydes loved La Belle Yseult, and how she loved him not again, but rather Sir Tristram, *Morris*; 8, Death of Merlin, *Jones*; 9, Sir Gawaine and the three damsels at the fountain, *S. Stanhope*; 10, The Death of Arthur, *Hughes*. The effect of these frescoes is much spoilt by the 20 circular windows by which they are intersected. The University debates are held in this room every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Strangers can be taken in by members; ladies find places in the gallery.

Further on rt. is a fine old paraged house, formerly the *Crown*
1 3

Inn, which was kept by the father of Sir William Davenant, and where he was born. Aubrey says that Shakespeare, who "was wont to go into Warwickshire once a year, did commonly lye at the Crowne Taverne at Oxford, where he was exceedingly respected." Sir Wm. Davenant was the poet's godson, and "the notion," said Pope to Spence, "of his being more than a poetical child only of Shakespeare was common in town, and Sir Wm. himself seemed fond of having it taken for truth."

Beyond, on the rt., at the Crossways, called Carfax (quatre faces?), is the *Ch. of St. Martin*, which was rebuilt 1822, and contains in its N. aisle a monument of John Davenant (father of Sir William), and the entry of his son's birth in its baptismal register. Attached to this ch. was Pennyless Porch, a sort of alcove, where the mayor and his brethren discussed the affairs of the city in public.

In front of the ch., in a spot called the Bull Ring, was the beautiful conduit of Otho Nicholson, now in Nuneham Park. The tower of St. Martin's is ancient, and was lowered in the reign of Edward III., because the scholars complained that, in "time of combat" between town and gown, the townsfolk, retreating to the top of it, as to a fortress, were wont to annoy them thence with arrows and stones. (See p. 137.) "All the licence of those violent times was shared in the fullest degree by the students of Oxford. North against south, Scotch against Irish, both against Welsh, town against gown, academics against monks, nomenclists against rustics, juniors against seniors, the whole university against the bishop of its diocese, against the archbishop of its province, against the chancellor of its own election,—were constantly in array one against another. The citizens were formed into a species of line or national guard to repress the excesses of the

academic mob. When the council of the nation assembled in Oxford, orders were issued to the students to absent themselves during its continuance. Carfax, the point of junction between the two hostile parties, was turned into a fortress, and thither, at the blowing of horns, the townsmen collected, either as a rendezvous for attack, or as a stronghold whence to annoy the enemy with volleys of arrows or stones. Thence too the tocsin was sounded by the town, as from St. Mary's by the university, when the two parties met in hostile array; pitched battles were fought with war standards unfurled, sometimes in the streets, sometimes in the adjacent fields;—of one of these bloody contests the memory was long preserved in 'Slaying lane.' One of these, in the reign of John, in which a woman was murdered by the students, led to the execution of three of the supposed culprits by the chancellor, and, in indignation at this alleged injustice, to the migration of a great body of the students to other seats of learning. In the reign of Edward III., when these riots were at their climax, there is one described in colours of which nothing in our own times can remind us, short of the wild scenes of the continental capitals in 1848—the city-gates barricaded, the chancellor interposing in person, a savage mob of 2000 countrymen bursting in, headed by black flags, and uttering wild cries of 'Slay, slay,' 'havoc, havoc'—Oxford given up to pillage for 2 days, and the cause of the students finally avenged by the demolition of the great tower of St. Michael's church, in which the insurgents had for the time intrenched themselves."—*A. P. S.* The fights between town and gown are still kept up, in a minor degree, on the 5th of November, and several succeeding evenings.

Behind Carter's, the fishmonger's,

on rt., a short way down the High Street, is a narrow alley, containing one of the finest specimens of the ancient halls now remaining in Oxford.

"St. Aldate's Street (pronounced St. Toles) takes its name from a Bishop of Gloucester who cut Hengist King of the Saxons in pieces."—*Hearne*. 1. is the *Town Hall*, on the site of an ancient institution called the "Domus Conversorum," for the reception of Jews converted to Christianity. The centre niche, in its façade, has a statue of Thos. Rowney, by whom it was rebuilt in 1752. rt. is *St. Aldate's Ch.*, a fine specimen of Dec., built by Sir John de Docklington in 1336. The Trinity chapel contains a fine tomb of John Noble, a master of Broadgate's Hall, 1522. "It was the custom for the people of the parish to eat sugar sops out of the font in this church on Holy Thursday."—*Hearne*.

Opposite and flanking the ch. is *Pembroke College*, founded on the site of the ancient Broadgate's Hall (remarkable for its privilege of sanctuary), by William Tesdale, in 1624, Herbert Earl of Pembroke being then Chancellor of the University. Whitfield was a servitor here, and Samuel Johnson occupied the rooms over the original gateway, from the window of which he threw in a fury the new shoes which a well-meaning friend had placed at his door, on seeing that his old ones were no longer wearable. Poverty compelled Johnson to leave Pembroke before he had taken his degree. In the gateway itself he "was generally seen lounging, with a circle of gay young students round him, whom he was entertaining with wit, and keeping them from their studies, if not spurring them up to rebellion against the College discipline which, in his maturer years he so much extolled." Some of his college exercises are preserved in the *Library*, with his bust by *Bacon*, and in the

handsome modern hall (1848) is an admirable portrait of him by *Sir J. Reynolds*. The College library used to be kept over the S. aisle of St. Aldate's ch., in a room which was afterwards the Archdeacon's Registry, but which is now embodied in the ch. The new quadrangle is built on the site of Beef Hall.

Close to Pembroke are some picturesque almshouses, founded by Cardinal Wolsey. Below, at the corner of Brewer Street, is the house in which Wolsey is said to have lived during the building of Christ Church. It is now divided, but contains the old staircase. Below, also on the rt., is a many-gabled house, with picturesque pargeting work on the exterior. This and the old house about 4 doors lower down formerly formed one mansion, which was built, as the date on one of the windows testifies, in 1528, by Robert King, the last Abbot of Oseney, and the first Bishop of Oxford, after the accession of Edward VI., when he was deprived of Gloucester Hall, which had before been assigned to him as a residence. Cuddesden was not built till a cent. later, and in the interim the Bishops of Oxford had no palace. The ceilings of both houses are richly decorated, and in the 2nd house they bear the arms of King frequently repeated. The house was subsequently occupied by Unton Croke, a colonel in Cromwell's army, and member for Oxford.

The street is closed by the *Folly* or *Grand-pont Bridge*, which formerly consisted of above 40 stone arches, but which now is reduced to 3 (built 1825-27). In a house on this bridge the abbots of Abingdon were accustomed to keep court. Here, also, was the gateway known as Friar Bacon's study—from Roger Bacon, the philosopher, who died in 1292, and who used to ascend this tower by night to take the altitude and distance of the stars. Here walk-

tion tells us that he made a brazen head, which was to deliver oracles by which England would for ever be safe from invasion. For these oracles his friend, Friar Bungay, was appointed to watch, but he fell asleep instead, and the head, furious at not being attended to, burst in pieces. Thus the secret was lost, and the University Rifle Corps owes its origin to the sleep of Friar Bungay! It was said of Bacon's study, that it was so constructed that it would fall when a man more learned than himself passed under it, whence the line, in the 'Vanity of Human Wishes,'—

"And Bacon's mansion trembles o'er his head."

Proceeding from Carfax towards the stat., on the l. is a house remarkable for the medallions on its exterior, which are very rare in England, and remind the traveller of the old houses at Caen in Normandy.

On the rt., in the street called the *Bailey*, from the ancient Ballium, at the spot called "the Seven Deadly Sins," is *New Inn Hall*, which deserves mention as the last remaining example—in name alone, it is true—of the "Inns" at which students were lodged during the early existence of the university; these inns having afterwards given place to colleges, of which they were the germ. This building served as a mint in the troubles of Charles I.'s reign, at which the plate of the different colleges, loyally contributed to furnish funds for the king's government, was converted into money. Here were struck the coins known as "Exurgat money," from the legend on the reverse, "Exurgat Deus, dissipentur inimici."

Opposite New Inn Hall are the gates of *Frewen Hall* (on the site of an ancient monastic building), the residence of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, while a student at the university, 1859-60.

Returning, on l. in the street of that name is the ch. of St. Ebbes (daughter of Ethelfred, King of Northumbria), containing a fine Norm. doorway. Further in branch-street, on the l., are the remains of the monastery of the Franciscans, or Grey Friars, a Gothic archway, and some ancient windows. Paradise-street is so called from their "Paradise" or garden. (There is an island in the Cherwell, immediately N. of the bridge, called "Paris Island," corrupted from another Paradise, a garden belonging to St. John's Hospital.) Roger Bacon, the astronomer, was a friar of this house, and was buried here in 1292.

Returning through street on rt., and proceeding towards the stat.;—on l., are the remains of the *Castle*, now reduced to a solitary tower, a high mound, and a few fragments of wall, but very interesting as a historical relic. The tower was built, probably in the reign of William Rufus, by Walter D'Oyley, a Norman follower of the Conqueror. In 1142 the Empress Maud, besieged within its walls for 3 months, succeeded at length in escaping by sallying out (or being let down from the walls by ropes), escorted by 3 knights, all clad in white sheets, on a wintry night, while snow covered the ground and the Thames was frozen over. She reached Abingdon on foot, whence she was conveyed to Wallingford. A crypt, known as "*Maunder's Chapel*," discovered while clearing the foundations for the new gaol, is a most interesting example of early Norm. work, and was probably the crypt under the great hall. It was found necessary to remove it, but the pillars have been replaced in a neighbouring cellar, in the same relative position. The *Mound*, which supported the Norm. keep, is much earlier, probably of the time of the Mercian kings; in its centre is a curious octagonal vaulted chamber (temp. Hen. III.),

containing a well and approached by a long flight of steps. Within the precincts of the castle was the collegiate ch. of St. George; but the parishioners not being able to get to it during Maude's siege, the Pope permitted them to build a temporary ch. without the walls, where now stands *St. Thomas*. This ch., formerly the ch. of St. Nicholas of Myra, being made permanent in 1210, was dedicated to St. Thomas Becket. Very little of the original fabric remains.

The ancient *Walls* of Oxford, which were in existence in the time of Hen. III., and of which many of the gates were standing as late as 1771, may still be traced through a great part of their course. The S. gate crossed St. Aldate's-street between the almshouses and Christ Ch., whence, passing behind the great quadrangle, the wall still forms the boundary of the Canons' gardens and of those of Merton, whence it passed to the E. gate, which crossed the High-street above the Magdalen School. Hence it ran to the back of New College garden, where it is still in full preservation, and where there is a small gateway, and to the back of Broad-street, where the "Martyrs' Tower," on the wall, is still in existence. From George-street the wall ran in a direct line to the W. gate, near St. Peter le Bailly, whence it took a S. direction as far as the still existing remains of the Dominican Friars, and thence along Brewer-street beneath Pembroke College (where it may still be seen) to join the S. gate at St. Aldate's. The ancient city formed an oblong figure, with a circumference of about 2 m.]

Beyond the rly. is the site of the famous Oseney Abbey, founded, it is said, by Edith, lady of the adjoining castle, at the instigation of the souls in purgatory, who chattered to her as she walked by the river side, in the form of magpies,

till she was induced to erect a stately priory and ch. as extensive as the buildings of Christ Ch., and, for the beauty of its architecture and arrangements, the wonder not only of Englishmen, but of foreigners, who came far and near to worship at its 24 altars, and to admire its 2 lofty campaniles, its numerous chapels, the house of its abbot, "having a hall more befitting a common society than a private man"—and its melodious clime of bells, then reputed the best in England, and now in their altered use and position in the tower of Christ Ch. almost the sole extant relics of the ancient abbey. Leland describes the tomb of the foundress Edith d'Oyley in the priory ch., with her image in stone, in the "abbte of a Vowess," holding a hart in her right hand, and the paintings on the wall over her grave, which represented "the cumming of Edith to Oseneye, and Radulph waiting on her, and the trees with the chattering pyes." Among the numerous pilgrims and visitors to the abbey was Henry III., who spent a Christmas here with "great revelling mirth."

There are 3 views of Oseney in existence—the print by Ralph Agas in the Bodleian, that in Dugdale's 'Monasticon,' and the background of Bishop King's window in the cathedral.

"Dr. Johnson viewed Oseney and Rewley for half an hour in silence, then said, 'I viewed them with indignation.'"—*Boswell's Johnson*.

Among the distinguished natives of Oxford are Edmund Ironside and Harold Harefoot (who died here); Richard Cœur-de-Lion (who was born here); King John; Herbert Losinga, Bishop of Norwich; William Chillingworth, Sir W. Davenant, Antony Wood, and Henry Martin the regicide.

The *Post-office* is in the Town Hall, in St. Aldate's-street.

Booksellers, &c.—At Mr. Parker's

in Broad-street (the author of the 'Glossary of Architecture,' and chief supporter of the "Oxford Architectural Society") will be found one of the largest and best collections of modern books in the kingdom.

Beautiful photographs of the Oxford buildings may be obtained at Mr. Wyatt's in the High-street, and at Mr. Shrimpton's in the Broad-street.

The celebrated print-shop of Mr. Ryman in the High-street should not pass unnoticed.

The large establishment of Messrs. Spiers and Son, 102, High-street, is well furnished with ornamental goods, guide-books, maps, and stationery. There are few shops in London better supplied. Messrs. Spiers are also willing and able to give much information to strangers visiting Oxford.

EXCURSIONS.

1. To *Iffley Ch.* 1½ m. along the Henley road, turning to the rt. The village, on a height, commands pleasant views of Oxford and the river. The ch. of Iffley (formerly Givetelei, the Gift Meadow), dedicated to St. Mary, is supposed to be coeval with Kenilworth (on the Black Monks of which it was conferred about the year 1139), and is one of the finest specimens of Norm. architecture in England. It has 3 magnificent Norm. doorways, of which that at the W. end has an arcade above it surmounted by a circular window which has been filled with stained glass in memory of the unfortunate Elliot Warburton, brother of the present incumbent. The chancel is an E. E. addition. It has a good painted window by *Willemet*. The arches under the tower have rich Norm. mouldings; the font is large and square and as old as the ch. In the churchyard is a magnificent *yew-tree*; the churchyard cross has

been restored, and groups beautifully with the old yew-tree and the Norm. tower richly coloured with yellow lichen.

Charles Forbench, the vicar of this ch. who was ejected by the Parliamentary Commissioners and was imprisoned at Woodstock for reading Common Prayer, said, on being released, "If I must not read it, I am resolved I will say it by heart in spite of all the rogues in England."

Close by is the old Rectory-house, a picturesque building containing some fine panelled rooms, and a very curious and unique buttery-hatch, divided by an ornamented pillar. There is a pleasant walk back to Oxford, crossing the river at the old water-mill below the ch., and returning along the opposite bank as far as the barges, where there is a ferry to Christchurch Meadows.

2. Another short walk is that turning to the rt. from the Cheltenham road, a short distance from the stat., and following the lanes and meadows to *Binsey* 1½ m. This little ch. was once celebrated as the Oratory of St. Frideswide. It was first called Thorney, from the number of thorns which grew there, but changed its name to Binsey (Bene and Ea, the "Island of Prayer"). The old oratory was to the l. of the present ch., and was "built of watlyn and rough-hewn timber." Here was preserved a famous image of St. Frideswide, and the pavement was worn away by the knees of the pilgrims who came to worship before it. 3 yds. on the W. of the chapel was the noted well of St. Margaret, which St. Frideswide, by her prayers at the building of the chapel, caused miraculously be opened. So great was the reputation of this well, that the town of Seckworth (of which scarcely any traces remain) sprung up, and contained no less than 24 inns for the sake of those who came to profit by

its healing powers. Hither the refractory nuns were sent from Oxford to be chastised and put into solitary confinement.

On the banks of the river is *Medley*, mentioned in the amatory poems of Withers—

"In summer-time to Medley
My love and I would go;
The boatmen there stood ready
My love and I to row."

In the low water-meadows the botanist will find *Aristolochia clematitis*, *birthwort*; *Vallisneria spiralis*, *fringed water-lily*; *Holtonia palustris*, *water violet*: the last a common plant in the neighbourhood of Oxford.

½ m. further, among the green meadows close to the river (which has a lock here), are the ruins of *Godstow Nunnery*, founded by Edith Launcelne, in 1138, King Stephen and his Queen Maud laying the foundation stone. The ruins are now very insignificant, consisting only of a few low ivy-grown walls and crumbling Gothic windows. Wood's MS. gives an account of its former state. "The approach to the nunnery was through a large gate with lodging-rooms over it: this led into a spacious court, on the rt. or S. side of which stood the nunnery, which had a fair portico leading into it. On the l. or N. side of the court was a long range of buildings, which reached from the gatehouse almost to the end of the court. There was a little old chapel standing in the garden, and the remains of a great cloister leading from the tower of the great ch., then destroyed, to the chapel, which was called St. Leonard's Chapel, and which contained in its E. window 2 portraits of Margaret Tewkesbury and Elizabeth Brainton, abbesses of this place. There was a second chapel, called St. Thomas's Chapel, which was used for the guests, pilgrims, and the poor who came daily." Here Fair Rosamond

was educated; and here, there is every reason to believe, in spite of the story of the labyrinth, she passed the latter years of her life, and that, when death put an end to her penitence, she was buried here by her parents beneath the high altar:—

"Her body then they did entombe,
When life was fled away,
At Godstowe, neare to Oxforde towne,
As may be seene this daye."

Lights were ordained to be constantly kept burning at her grave, where King John is said, by Lambard, to have erected a costly monument, with the inscription—

"Hic jacet in Tumba, Rosa Mundi, non
Rosa Munda,
Non redolet, sed olet, quae redolere solet."

"When Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln," says Stowe, "came to Godstow, in 1191, and entered the church to pray, he saw there a tomb, in the middle of the quire, covered with a pall of silke and set about with lights of waxe; and, demanding whose tomb it was, he was answered that it was the tombe of Rosamund, sometime lenman to Henry II., who for the love of her had done much good to that church." Then the bishop commanded that she should be taken up and buried without the church, "lest Christian religion should grow in contempt." Leland mentions Rosamund's tomb, with the inscription "*Tumba Rosamundæ*" upon the stone, and that "her bones were found closed in lede, and within that closed in leather (leather); when it was opened, there was a very swete smell came out of it." The story of her being poisoned by Eleanor is said to have arisen from the ornament of a cup engraven on the tomb. The chapel is now a cowshed.

Among the relics shown here till the dissolution was the petrified trunk of a tree, which was said to have become so in answer to a prophecy of Fair Rosamund, who affirmed she knew she should be saved.

and that when she arrived in heaven this tree would be turned into stone.

Rosamund Clifford had 2 sons by Henry—Richard Long-épée, Earl of Salisbury, and Geoffrey Plantagenet, Archbishop of York and Lord Chancellor. They alone, of all his children, were a comfort to him; and the latter was with him when he died, brokenhearted at the ingratitude of his legitimate children, and buried him in the monastery of Fontevrault.

On the bridge at Godstow was formerly a cross, inscribed—

"Qui meat huc oret, signumque salutis
adore,
Utque sibi detur veniam, Rosamunda pre-
cetur."

Near the nunnery is the celebrated trout-house of Mr. Lipscomb ($\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the E., in Berks, is Wytham, seat of the Earl of Abingdon). The shortest way to Godstow, from Oxford, is by the streets near the University Press, known as "Jericho," and then across "*Port Meadow*," a marshy level of 439 acres, mentioned in Domesday Book as a place where the citizens of Oxford had rights of common pasturage, even in the times of Edward the Confessor. It is well known to Oxford riders. Here the river is crossed at Bossom's ferry, whence a pleasant walk leads along the bank to Godstow. Boats and canoes may be hired at the ferry. The return hence to Oxford may be varied by ascending the hill and joining the Woodstock road at *Wolvercote* formerly *Wolvescote*. Here (according to Holinshed) in a dingle near a wood, Memphric, King of the Britons, great-grandson of Brutus, and traditional founder of Oxford, was seized and devoured by wolves. The ch. contains a tomb of Sir J. Walter and his wife, Lady Dacre of Herstmonceux.

"Midway between this and Oxford was *Aristotle's Well*, where the students, especially such as studied his

philosophy, went frequently to refresh themselves."—*Hearn*.

rt. near the "Horse and Jockey," may be traced some of the fortifications thrown up during the siege of Oxford in the civil wars.

3. The Hinkseys. (See Rte. 7.)

4. 3 m. *Water Eaton* (reached by a lane turning off across fields from the Woodstock road), a manor-house built in the early part of James I., formerly the residence of Lord Lovelace. The house is exceedingly picturesque, "with transomed windows and projecting porch ornamented with pillars. On the N. of the court is the Perp. chapel; in the same state as when it was built, with its original screen, pulpit, and open seats. It is interesting as showing that, though the house was Jacobean, it was thought necessary to keep to the old style of architecture in the chapel, as exclusively ecclesiastical." Behind is an old elm-avenue. The return to Oxford may be varied by a walk along the bank of the Cherwell.

5. *Shotover* 4 m. Crossing Magdalen Bridge you enter the suburb of *St. Clement's*. Here was the holy well of St. Edmund, to which great resort was made during the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. It is said that "when Pope Innocent IV. was a student at Oxford he often here, as of his extraordinary piety, conversed with God in private, particularly on a time, walking in the fields near Oxford, Jesus Christ appeared to him—whence a spring might well burst forth for joy, as St. Margaret's well at Binsey did at the entreaties of St. Frid." This pontiff was canonized. A road turning to the rt. from Headington Hill leads to *Shotover* (till lately a wild unenclosed space), whence there is a fine view of Oxford. This hill derives its name from Château Vert, the Green Castle or Hunting Lodge of Shotover, which was given up to the ranger of the day by Prince

Henry, son of James I., who cut off his hand by an awkward stroke while he was holding the stag (according to custom) to be beheaded by the royal sportsman. Hence it passed to Dr. Strutt, physician to George III., and thence to the Drurys. An ancestor of the poet Milton was ranger of Shotover; hence the name of the family, from the village of Milton; and his residence at Forest-hill, i. e. Shotover Forest-hill. This was the spot selected by Queen Elizabeth for her meeting with the city authorities on her visit to Oxford, and she here made an extempore reply to their address.

Shotover is exceedingly interesting to the geologist, both from the abundance of its fossils and from the peculiarity of its formation, which is fully described in a paper by Professor Phillips on 'The Estuary Sands of the upper part of Shotover Hill,' published in the Journal of the Geological Society, Aug. 1858. It consists of:—"1. The Oxford Clay. 2. Calcegrit, or sands with cherty and shelly bands. 3. Coraline oolite, with shelly rag-beds. 4. Kimmeridge clay. 5. The Portland Sands, with included rock-bands and hard nodules, rich in shells. 6. Iron-sand and ochre series, to the top of the hill, 80 ft., consisting of yellow and white sands, varied with brown and even black colour, sandstones, sometimes cherty, nodular and geodic formations of oxide of iron, bands of white clay, and local accumulations of ochre."

Shotover is also interesting to the botanist. The plants found here include—*Menyanthis trifoliata*, *bog-bean*; *Polemonium coraleum*, *blue Jacob's ladder*; *Campanula trachelium*, *nettle-leaved bellflower*; *Jasione montana*, *sheep's scabious*; *Camelina satira*, *gold of pleasure*; *Anagallis tenella*, *bog pimpernel*; *Myosotis versicolor*, *variegated scorpion grass*; *Habenaria bifolia*, *lesser butterfly orchis*; *Lastrea oreopteris*,

mountain fern; *Blechnum spicant*, *hard fern*.

The small village of Horsepath nestles under the side of the hill, with a Gothic ch. The tower has two rude figures built into its wall, which are said to be those of its founders.

"Shelley, when at University College, loved to walk in the woods, to stroll on the banks of the Thames, but especially to wander about Shotover Hill. At a pond at the foot of the hill before ascending it, on the l. of the road, formed by the water which had filled an old quarry, he would linger in the dusk, gazing in silence on the water, repeating verses aloud, or loudly exulting in the splash of the stones he continually threw."—*New Monthly*, 1832.

2 m. further is Cuddesden, which contains the *Palace of the Bishop of Oxford*, a commonplace building of no pretensions to beauty. The Bishops resided originally in Oxford, first in Gloucester Hall, and afterwards in the beautiful old pargeted house in St. Aldate's, still known as "Bishop King's House." Bp. Bancroft, attracted no doubt by the fine neighbouring ch., and instigated by Laud, first built a palace here in 1635, with timber presented by Charles I. from the forest of Shotover; but this short-lived building was burnt to the ground in 1644 by Colonel Legg, the royalist governor of Oxford, for fear it should be used as a garrison by the Parliamentarians. It remained in ruins until Bp. Fell rebuilt it at his own cost in 1679. "The Palace Chapel, erected by Bp. Wilberforce in 1846, is a very good imitation of Dec. work; the windows are all filled with stained glass by the best artists of the day."—*H. P.*

The Ch. (12th cent.) is a fine cruciform edifice, with a massive tower in the centre. It was built during the transition from the Roman

to the E. E. style of architecture; it has a fine Norm. doorway at the W. end, and the pointed arches beneath the tower have beautiful zigzag mouldings. Bp. Bancroft, the founder of the original palace in 1635, is buried near the S. wall of the chancel; there are also mural monuments of Bishops Moss and Jackson, and in the churchyard the grave of Maria, daughter of Bishop Lowth, on whom there is a touching epitaph.

Here is the *Ecclesiastical Training College*, founded by the Bp. of Oxford, April 1833, and opened June 15, 1854. It is intended for the reception of theological students, members of the Universities, who have passed their final examination, and students of King's College, or graduates of Trinity College, Dublin, holding the Divinity Testimonial. The College, which is built from designs of *Street*, is situated just opposite the Episcopal Palace, and contains rooms for 21 students, a dining-hall, common-room, chapel, and rooms for a vice-principal. The style is Dec. The roofs are of very different heights, and the upper story is lighted by large dormer windows, with hipped gables on the side of the principal roofs. An octagonal staircase turret, with pyramidal capping, makes a conspicuous and very ornamental feature on the exterior.

The return to Oxford may be varied by joining the London road beyond *Wheatley*—a hideous village containing an Inn in which the old county balls were held.

6. To Forest Hill, 4 m.; Great Milton, Great Hazeley, and Thame, 10 m. (See Rte. 17.)

7. Staunton St. John's, Beckley, and Elsfield. Dr. Arnold mentions "the wider skirmishing ground by Beckley, Staunton St. John's, and Forest Hill, which we used to expatiate over on whole holidays, and Elsfield on its green slope."

Turning to the l. from Magdalen Bridge, the road ascends Headington Hill, the same by which, on June 24, 1646, the Royalists, after the surrender of Oxford, "marched out of the town, through a guard of the enemy, extending from St. Clement's to Shotover Hill, armed, with colours flying and drums beating. Prince Rupert and Prince Maurice had left with the people of quality two days before."

On the rt., "at the brow of the branch of the Roman way that falls down upon Marston Lane, is an elm that is commonly known by the name of Jo Pullen's tree, it having been planted by the care of the late Mr. Josiah Pullen of Magdalen Hall, who used to walk to that place every day, sometimes twice a day, from Magdalen Hall and back again in the space of half an hour."—*Hearne*. A stone cross formerly stood here, on the spot (then in Shotover Forest) where it is said that a student of Queen's was once attacked by a wild boar from the neighbouring forest of Shotover, when he escaped by cramming the volume of Aristotle, which he was reading, with the cry "Græcum est," down the throat of that infuriated beast. This tradition is supposed to have given rise to the Christmas ceremony of the Boar's Head at Queen's College. *Headington Ch.* has a fine tower, 1679, and a churchyard cross decorated with Gothic tracery. King Ethelred had a palace here. A short distance from the village is the quarry from which much of the porous stone was taken of which so many of the Oxford buildings were built. This is an inferior kind of oolite, which is soft and easily cut in the quarry, but which hardens afterwards, unless exposed to smoke, as in the case of most of the Colleges, when it quickly crumbles away. That this is not the case when the surrounding atmosphere is clear may be seen in the garden

front of Wadham, and in many of the country houses in the neighbourhood.

2 m. further, on the l., is *Staunton St. John's*, so called from the family of St. John, who long possessed it. Here is a fine ch. of Edward I., which illustrates the transition from the E. E. to the Dec. style. The tower was added in the 15th cent. The chancel is of great beauty; many of the old seats remain, with very remarkable poppy-heads, some being heads of horses, others human heads in costume of Henry VIII. *Irondon Hill* is said to be so called from General Ireton, who resided there, and married Cromwell's daughter in the neighbouring village of Holton. It is 4 m. hence to Bearstall Tower. (See Bucks, Rte. 12.)

The road to Beckley (2 m.) skirts *Stow Wood*, on the borders of which is a small country Inn, much resorted to by Oxford botanists. Among the plants found here are: *Scabiosa columbaria*, *small scabious*; *Iris foetidissima*, *stinking iris*; *Asperula cynanchica*, *small woodruff*; *Primula elatior*, *oxlip*; *Turritis glabra*, *smooth tower-mustard*; *Aquilegia vulgaris*, *columbine*; *Hyocyamus niger*, *henbane*.

The village of *Beckley* is situated on an eminence overhanging the S. side of *Ottmoor*. The British Saint *Donanverdh* is recorded to have been buried here. Beckley was mentioned by King Alfred in his will as his hereditary property, and here was the castellated palace of Richard King of the Romans. The Ch. is a fine old building of the 14th cent., with interesting details. The walls are covered with the remains of very curious fresco paintings, which chiefly represent, and with horrible minuteness, the tortures of the damned. The font has an ancient stone desk to hold the book for the officiating priest, and the pulpit retains the old hour-

glass-stand. In this parish is *Studley Priory* (George Croke, Esq.), founded 1184 by Bernard de St. Valon, who was killed at the siege of Acre. Sir John Croke fitted it up into a dwelling-house in 1587. It is not shown.

The return to Oxford, through fields and lanes, by the little ch. of *Elsfield*, is pretty.

8. *Islip* and *Charlton-on-Ottmoor*. It is a pleasant walk, turning to the l. from St. Clement's, through the villages of Marston and Wood-eaton to *Islip*, where there is a fine ch., parts of which are as old as the 12th cent. The tower is Perp.; the nave Trans.-Norm., with some Dec. additions; the aisles are Dec. On the S. wall some curious wall-paintings of the 14th cent. have been discovered. The chancel was rebuilt by Dr. South, one of the most remarkable of the eminent men who have held this living. Dr. Buckland lived here, and is buried under a granite monument in the churchyard.

This was a residence of King Ethelred and Queen Emma; and here her son Edward the Confessor was born, as is manifest from his own words in the Charter for the restoration of Westminster, in which he gives to that monastery the "small village wherein I was born, by name Githslepe." The chapel and font (now at Middleton Stony), in which he was said to have been baptised, existed near the ch. till 1783.

2 m. further is the interesting ch. of *Charlton-on-Ottmoor*, of the 13th cent. It contains a very beautiful rood-screen of richly carved oak, which retains all the original painting and gilding of Henry VII. or VIII. The stone stairs to the rood-loft are all cut away but 2; the staircase-arch, however, is left. A remnant of the old Roman Catholic times remains in this ch. in the cross of evergreens and flowers which is

annually placed on the top of the roodloft, where it remains all the year round. Every May-day the village girls, dressed in white, bring it to the ch. in procession, when "the May-cross" is really a beautiful sight.

Further in this direction are the Dec. chs. of *Merton* and *Ambrosden*. In the old manor-house at Merton Prince Charles Edward was concealed for some days in the house of Sir James Harrington.

9. Chalgrove Field, Watlington, and Shirbourne Castle. (Rte. 18.)

10. 4 m. Nuneham Courtenay; 8 m. Dorchester; 14 m. Ewelme (see Rte. 19).

11. Woodstock, Blenheim, and Ditchley. (See Rte. 17.)

12. *Stanton Harcourt*, 7 m., leaving Oxford beyond the Stat.; the road on passing Botley enters Berks, and ascends the hill to Cumnor (see Rte. 7.), whence a foot-path will conduct the pedestrian to a ferry over the Isis into Oxfordshire at *Bablock-hythe*.

"For most I know thou lov'st retir'd ground:
Thee at the ferry, Oxford riders blithe,
Returning home on summer nights, have met,
Crossing the stripling Thames at Bablock-hythe,
Traffling in the cool stream thy fingers wet,
As the slow punt swings round."

M. Arnold.

Hence it is 1 m. to Stanton Harcourt, which has been in the Harcourt family 600 yrs., having been granted by Adeliza, Queen of Henry I., to her kinswoman Milicent de Camvil, whose daughter Isabel married Robert de Harcourt. The remains of the manor-house (of the 15th cent.) are small, and consist only of a fine tower, the gate-house, and the *kitchen*, which is unique, with very few exceptions, the best known being those of the abbey of Glastonbury near Wells, Fontevrault in France, and the Deanery of Durham. It has walls 3 ft. thick, the rooms being square below and oct-

angular above, ascending like a tower. The height to the roof is 39 ft., which rises 25 ft. higher. The fires were made against the walls, and the smoke, ascending without tunnels, was stopped by the conical roof, and escaped by loopholes on every side, which were opened and shut according to the direction of the wind. The roof is surmounted by a griffin 8 ft. high.

Pope, in a letter to the Duke of Buckingham, likens the kitchen to the forge of Vulcan, the cave of Polyphemus, and the temple of Moloch. He says that "the horror of it has made such an impression upon the country people, that they believe the witches keep their sabbath here, and that once a year the Devil treats them with infernal venison, viz. a toasted tiger stuffed with tenpenny nails." He graphically describes the aged and desolate appearance of the house in his time, and concludes by affirming that "its very rats are grey, and praying that the roof may not fall upon them, as they are too infirm to seek other lodgings." He also describes one of the little rooms in the tower as walled up; "for the ghost of Lady Frances is supposed to walk there, and some prying maids of the family report that they have seen a lady in a fardingale, through the keyhole; but the matter is hushed up and the servants are forbidden to talk of it."

The tower, good Perp. of Edward IV., called *Pope's Tower*, is situated in the garden. It is 54 ft. high, and contains the domestic chapel, with 3 rooms above it, the uppermost of which is called *Pope's Study*. Here that poet spent 2 summers, and wrote the following inscription on a pane of red glass, which was in one of the windows, but is now preserved at Nuneham:—"In the year 1718 Alexander Pope finished here the fifth volume of *Homer*." While he resided here Gay was staying with

the Harcourts at Cokethorpe, and frequently visited him. An interesting letter of his graphically describes the death of 2 lovers who were struck here by lightning in 1718.

The *Ch. of St. Michael* is cruciform. The nave is of the 12th, the chancel and transepts of the 13th, the tower and Harcourt aisle of the 15th cent.; the fine carved E. E. oak rood-screen is the earliest known in England. On the N. of the chancel is an altar-tomb, with a beautiful Dec. canopy, said to have been that of Isabel de Camville; it is adorned with the symbols of the Passion, and is supposed to have served as an Easter Sepulchre. Near it is the ancient tomb of Maud, daughter of Lord Grey of Rotherfield Greys, and wife of Sir Thomas Harcourt, in a curious costume of Richard II. The Harcourt aisle contains the tombs, on the S., of Sir Robert Harcourt and his wife Margaret (1471), both (the lady being one of the only 3 known instances) decorated with the order of the Garter; on the N. that of Sir Robert (grandson of the former, and standard-bearer of the Duke of Richmond at Bosworth after Sir W. Branston was cut down) and his wife Anne; also a monument to the Sir Simon, 1st Viscount Harcourt, which has an epitaph by Pope.

Several of the Huntingdon family are buried in this ch. Robert Huntingdon's monument has Congreve's epitaph:—

- " This peaceful tomb doth now contain
 Father and son, together laid,
 Whose living virtues shall remain
 When they and this are quite decay'd.
- " What man should be, to ripeness grown,
 And finish'd worth should do or shun,
 At full was in the father shown;
 What youth could promise, in the son.
- " But death, obdurate, both destroy'd
 The perfect fruit and opening bud;
 First seiz'd those sweets we had enjoy'd,
 Then robb'd us of the coming good."

Here also is the monument with

Pope's inscription on John Howet and his sweetheart, killed by lightning under a tree.

It is a custom in this ch. that the men and women should never enter by the same door.

At a short distance from the village are the disconnected stones known as the *Devil's Quoits*, which are said to be memorials of a battle of Bampton, fought in 614, when the Saxon princes Cynegil and Cwhicelon slew more than 2000 Britons; but the name arises from the popular tradition that the Devil played here with a beggar for his soul, and won by the throwing of these huge stones. There is a belief in the village that its name arose from the fact that, when a battle was fought there, the general rode up to one of his captains, named Harcourt, who was in the thick of it, and called out "Stan' to 'un, Harcourt! Stan to 'un, Harcourt!" and that Harcourt won the battle, and the place has been called Stanton Harcourt ever since (see *Scouring of the White Horse*).

[2 m. S. of Stanton Harcourt is the ch. of *Northmoor*, of mixed styles, chiefly 14th cent., with good effigies, and a picturesque parsonage-house of the 16th cent.]

Witney and Minster Lovel may be combined with Stanton Harcourt in a long expedition. The road to Oxford may be varied in returning by Ensham (see Rte. 19).

13. The Great Rollwright and Heythrop, near Chipping Norton. (See Rte. 17.)

14. Rowsham and Great Tew.

15. Broughton Castle, Wroxton Abbey, Bloxham Ch., and Hanwell Castle, near Banbury (Rte. 15).

It may be as well for the benefit of residents to mention here several other expeditions, which, though in other counties, are easily within the compass of a day's excursion from Oxford, viz.—

Goring Stat. — Aldworth, Bradfield, and Tidmarsh, in Berks; re-

turning to Pangbourne Stat. (See Rte. 33.)

Faringdon Road Stat.—Childrey, Sparsholt, Uffington, the White Horse, and Wayland Smith's Cave, in Berks; returning to Shrivenham Stat. (See Rte. 3.)

3. Evesham Stat.—Its Abbey and Battlefield in Worcestershire.

4. Stratford-on-Avon Stat.—Its Ch., Shakespeare's House, Anne Hathaway's Cottage at Shottery, Charlcote House and Ch. (3 m.), in Warwickshire.

5. Banbury Stat.—Edgehill (8 m.) and Compton Wynyates (10 m.), in Warwickshire.

6. Warwick Stat.—Warwick Castle, Guy's Cliff (2 m.), Kenilworth Castle (4 m.). There is also a Stat. at Kenilworth.

Leaving the Oxford Stat., the Great Western Railway runs parallel to the Worcester and Wolverhampton line for some distance, till, after skirting Port Meadow, beyond which Godstow is seen on the l., they separate near (l.) the village of Yarnton. (Rte. 17.)

69 m. *Woodstock Road Stat.*, 2½ m. from the town, whence an omnibus meets the trains. This is the easiest way of reaching Blenheim.

rt. 1 m. *Kidlington*, a manor of Thomas Chaucer, son of the poet. The fine cruciform *Ch. of St. Mary* is worth visiting. It is chiefly of the 15th cent., with an E. E. tower and a handsome Perp. spire. The nave has good E. E. parts, with a Dec. window and arches; the S. porch is rich Dec., with the ball-flower mouldings, crochets, a finial, and a plain wood roof. The chancel is chiefly Dec., and a S. chapel has a fine E. window in the same style. The stalls, which are Perp., are handsomely carved in wood. Near the ch. is an almshouse, founded by Lady Morton, 1671.

rt., near Kidlington, *Hampton Poyle Ch.*, of the 14th cent., on the

l. bank of the Cherwell, has in the chancel a good late E. E. window, and in the N. aisle a good Dec. window. Here are 2 fine effigies of a cross-legged warrior and his lady, and a brass of John Poyle, 1424, and his wife.

At *Hampton Gay* is a fine old Manor-house. *Shipton* has a good Dec. chancel.

71 m. *Kirtlington Stat.* Here a great synod was held in 977, at which King Edward the Martyr and St. Dunstan of Canterbury were present. The *Ch.* contains some Norm. details. *Kirtlington Park* is the seat of Sir George Dashwood, Bart.

1. 1 m. is *Tackley*, having a cruciform ch., with central E. E. tower and chancel, and a Perp. altar-tomb.

1. 1 m. is *Bletchington Park* (Viscount Valentia), partly rebuilt late in the last cent., on the site of a house which was celebrated for its magnificent staircase, and which was held for the King during the Civil Wars by Colonel Windebank, who, terrified by a victory which Cromwell had just gained over Prince Rupert at Islip, surrendered the place at once on his coming thither, April 3, 1644, for which he was soon after shot by court-martial at Oxford. Plot, in his quaint history (1677), declares that no snake will ever live at Bletchington, even if imported thither from other places.

A peculiar kind of striped marble is found here, which was used in the pillars of the cloister of St. John's College.

75½ m. *Heyford Stat.* 1½ m. on l. is *Rousham*, seat of C. Cottrell Dormer, Esq., who represents one of the oldest families in this part of England: his great-grandfather, Sir Clem. Cottrell, having inherited the Dormer name and estate from his cousin General Dormer in 1750. The grounds, which border the Cherwell, were laid out in the Italian style by *Kent*, and con-

tain a number of statues brought from Italy, with a fine sculpture of a lion tearing a horse by *Scheemaker*. The house, built by Sir R. Dormer in the reign of James I., contains a valuable collection of family portraits, among which are Sir Charles Cottrell, *Kneller*; Waller the poet, and Sir C. Cottrell, *Vandyke*; Robert Dormer, *Lely*; Lady Cottrell Dormer, *Sir J. Reynolds*; Sir Clement Cottrell Dormer, *West*. Among the illustrious members of this family were Sir Charles Cottrell, page to Villiers Duke of Buckingham, at whose assassination he was present, and steward to Elizabeth Queen of Bohemia, with whom he lived at Heidelberg. At the flight of the English royal family he was intrusted with the care of the little Duke of Gloucester, and in recognition of his services was presented with a magnificent chain by Charles II., which is still at Rousham, and with the office of Master of the Ceremonies, which remained in the family till George III. His son Clement served as a volunteer under Lord Sandwich, and was blown up at Solbay, May 28, 1672. It is said that he called out as the boats were pulling away, "You are leaving me in good company." His faithful friend Mr. Harbord died with him, and is commemorated by the same tomb in Westminster Abbey. Chas. Dormer, page to William of Orange, was killed at the battle of Almanza, and died singing "Britons! strike home." Sir Julius Adelmars Cæsar, another ancestor of the family, descended from the Adelmars Counts of Genoa, who are mentioned by Dante, received a visit from Queen Elizabeth. The following entry is found in his pocket-book after her departure:—"The Queen is gone, thank heaven! seemingly well content, carrying off my two best silver cups." Pope visited at Rousham, and his portrait remains at the house. There is a fine picture in the hall of

Johanna Dormer, Countess of Feria, who was maid of honour to Queen Mary.

In the dining-room are originals of Queen Elizabeth (for which she sate for Sir J. Cæsar); James I.; Lord Falkland (*Cor. Jansen*); and on the staircase of Anne, by *Kneller*.

Among the MSS. are some original letters of Mary Princess of Orange, eldest daughter of Charles I., to her brother the Duke of Gloucester, handed down by his attendant Sir Charles Cottrell (one assuring him that as long as she possesses anything in the world he shall never want bread—in allusion to the ill treatment of his mother Henrietta Maria); a letter of Charles II. to his aunt the Queen of Bohemia, asking her to spare her steward Sir Charles to be about his brother; other letters of Charles II. and Henry Duke of Gloucester; some letters of the Queen of Bohemia; letters of the famous Villiers Duke of Buckingham; the 'Imitation' of Thomas à Kempis in Spanish, written by Clement Cottrell, who was blown up at Solbay; the correspondence of Mrs. Cæsar, comprising autograph letters of Swift, Pope, and Walpole.

After describing his dislike of Blenheim, H. Walpole says, "The greatest pleasure we had was in seeing Sir Chas. Cottrell's house at Rowsham; it reinstated Kent with me, he has nowhere shown so much taste. The house is old, and was bad; he has improved it, stuck as close as he could to Gothic, and made a delightful library, and the whole is comfortable. The garden is Daphne in little, the sweetest little groves, streams, glades, porticoes, cascades, and river imaginable; all the scenes are perfectly classic. If I had such a house, such a library, and so pretty a wife, I think I should let King * * * * send to Herrenhausen for a Master of the Ceremonies."

The Ch., which is close to the

house, has some good late Norm. and Dec. parts.

1. 1 m. S. Steple Aston. The ch. is in E. E. Dec. and Perp. styles; has a curious Dec. piscina, and some good carved wood seats. A remarkable staircase, 14th cent., is preserved here, for its outer ideal with sculptured supports. Here also is a large monument for *Scheuchzer*, to Judge Peter W. H. Savage & Judge Paine, and his wife. He lived at Middle Aston, but the house was pulled down by Sir C. Cottrell. The grounds, however, remain as they were, and are picturesque, with flag and oaks; the offices are turned into a barn-house. In the churchyard a simple stone marks the grave of Thomas Mitchell, editor and translator of *Aristophanes*. *1. 2 m. Steple Barton Ch.* The political feelings of the parishioners may be traced in the lines which still remain upon the screen:—

"My son, fear thou the Lord and the King,
And meddle not with them that are given to
change."

A so-called restoration of this ch. has expelled the fine old Dormer tombs, which have been taken in at Roundham.

The picturesque manor-house was built by John Dormer 1524. It has been enlarged in very good taste by its present proprietor H. Hall, Esq. *Barton Westcott Ch.* contains some Norman details.

1. 4 m. N. is Sandford, a pretty village, with a tall cross, raised on lofty steps. In the churchyard is the huge grave of Lord Deloraine, of Leadwell, with openings, so that you can see his coffin within; the manor-house (Rev. Dr. Guest) has a curious mound, with a yew labyrinth, in the garden.

At *Hayford Warren* is an old tithe barn of the time of William of Wykeham.

7½ m. Somerton Stat. The ch. has a S. aisle, containing fine tombs of the Fermor family, and over the

altar a very curious bas-relief of the Last Supper. Archbishop Dixon was pastor of this living while president of St. John's. There is a picturesque remnant of his house in the green meadow behind the ch., consisting of a Perp. arch in a piece of ruined wall.

1. 14 m. is F. beell, which has a most picturesque old manor-house, containing some fine wainscoted rooms. Among its ancient possessors was Sir Baldwin Wake, who quarrelled with his brother about a lady of whom they were both enamoured, and immured him in a large lumber-room at the top of the house. This room still remains, and in it is what can only be described as a huge human dog-kennel, in which it is said that the unfortunate brother was chained as a lunatic till actual madness ensued. Drops of blood, said to be his, are shown, and the house is said to be haunted by a frightful apparition.

1. 1 m. North Aston. Its ch., marked by its beautiful tower, contains an altar-tomb of 1416. Close by is the seat of Colonel Bowles.

80½ m. Appleton Stat. *1. 1 m. Arvaho Hall*, in Northamptonshire. W. B. Cartwright, Esq., which contains a good collection of pictures. See *Handb. of North Hunts.*

1. 2 m., on a hill is Devilington, a small agricultural town of 1400 inhab., in which the game of quinzain was practised as late as the end of the 17th centy. In the ch., which was in great part rebuilt temp. Charles I., are a female effigy and some brasses. Near it is a curious house, consisting of a tall square tower, with an open balustrade at the top. Beneath the Plough Inn are the remains of a beautiful groined crypt. On the E. of the town, beneath green mounds, are buried the remains of the *Castle*, of unknown antiquity, where Piers Gaveston, favourite of Edward II., who had capitulated at the siege of

Scarborough to the Earl of Pembroke, on promise of personal safety, was seized by Lord Warwick, and, in violation of the treaty, hurried to Warwick, where he was beheaded. Charles I. slept here in the Parsonage-house the day after the battle of Cropredy. Deddington was the birthplace of Sir Thomas Pope.

1. in a N. direction is *Adderbury*, celebrated first for its Norm. castle, and afterwards for the palace of the Dukes of Buccleugh, which have both ceased to exist. The place is now remarkable for its fine ch., of various styles, surmounted by a Dec. spire. The chancel was built by William of Wykeham, and the E. window contains his arms. The sedilia and piscina are richly ornamented, and also the canopies over the altar, which were formerly coloured. There is a good double brass of a knight and a lady, date 1460. The vestry has a beautiful oriel window and an old muniment room over it. The old Rectory-house and the original tithe-barn remain close to the ch. A synod of bishops was held here in 1219, in order to crucify an impostor who assumed the name and pretended to the wounds of our Saviour.

The profligate and witty Earl of Rochester lived here, and in the chapel at Bodicote improvised and addressed to the clerk the lines—

" Sternhold and Hopkins had great qualms,
When they translated David's Psalms,
To make the heart full glad;
But had it been poor David's fate
To hear thee sing and them translate,
By Jove, 't would have drove him mad."

Pope's lines—

" With no poetic ardour fired,
I press the bed where Wilmot lay,"—

were written in the manor-house here.

2 m. rt. of this is *Bloxham*, a fine ch. of mixed styles, a considerable portion of which was built in the reign of Henry VI., by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester and Archbishop
[*B. B. & O.*]

Chichele. It has a most beautiful Dec. spire, said to have been erected by Wolsey. The door-case of the tower is enriched with sculptures in allusion to the Last Judgment. The respective merits of the three celebrated spires in this neighbourhood are best described in the well-known lines :—

" Bloxham for length,
Adderbury for strength,
And King's Sutton for beauty."

2 m. hence, at *Wiggington*, the remains of a small Roman villa were discovered in 1824.

86 m. Banbury Stat (*Inn* : Bear), a clean and well-built town on the Cherwell, contains about 6000 Inhab. and returns one M.P. "Banbury zeal, cakes, and ale," are an old proverb, and the town is still famous for its *Cakes* and ale, and the cheese made in its neighbourhood. It is in a flourishing state, less from its manufactures of plush and horse-girths, which have declined, than from its situation in the midst of one of the most fertile districts in England, its weekly market, its 9 annual fairs, and its canal to Oxford and Birmingham, along which there is a considerable carrying trade.

The ugly *Ch.*, in the modern Italian style, was built in 1793; the older one having been pulled down needlessly and with difficulty, and all the fine monuments of the Copes broken up and removed. Its partial re-erection without a spire, and the character the town had for uncleanness, gave rise to the rhyme, how—

" Dirty Banbury's proud people
Built a church without a steeple."

The *Castle*, built by the bishops of Lincoln, and held by them till the reign of Edward VI., is entirely destroyed. It was held for the king during the Civil Wars, and stood two sieges—one of 13 weeks' duration, 1644, from Colonel Fiennes, when the brave garrison was relieved ~~and~~

having eaten all their horses but two; the other in 1646, after which it was pulled down by the Parliament, and no trace now remains save a bit of the wall and part of the moat. The inhab., supported by the powerful family of the Copes, were noted for their puritanic tendencies; in Ben Jonson's 'Bartholomew Fair,' "Zeal-of-the-land-busy," the Puritan suitor to Mrs. Purecraft, is a Banbury man. Drunken Barnaby sings,

"In my progress travelling northward,
Taking my farewell o' the southward,
To Banbury came I, O profane one!
Where I saw a puritane one
Hanging of his cat on Monday
For killing of a mouse on Sunday."

There are a great many Dissenting meetings here. The Rectory-house is old and curious, and there are many picturesque houses of the 16th and 17th centys. in the streets.

The "goodly crosse" of Banbury has been lately restored in good taste. It is well known from the famous nursery rhyme—

"Ride a cock-horse to Banbury Cross,
To see a fine lady get on a white horse,
Rings on her fingers and bells on her toes,
And she shall have music wherever she goes."

This was said to be in allusion to the habit of the "Old Woman of Banbury," known also as the "Witch of the White Horse." There were formerly a number of crosses here, such as the *Highe Crosse*, the *Market Crosse*, the *Bread Crosse*, the *White Crosse*, and the *Weeping Crosse*, the last being so called because the bodies of the dead, taken for burial from Bodicot to Adderbury, were set down there; the name is borne by two other places, one near Stafford where the road turns off to Walsall, the other near Shrewsbury.

"He that goes out with often losse,
At length comes back by weeping Crosse,"

is an ancient proverb. Florian (Trans. of Montaigne, bk. iii. ch. 5)

says, "Few men have wedded their sweethearts, their paramours, or mistresses, but have come home by Weeping Crosse, and ere long repented of their bargain." Before 1622 all these crosses fell into decay, which caused Bishop Corbet to write—

"The Crosses also, like old stumps of trees,
Or stools for horsemen that have feeble
knees,
Carry no heads above ground."

There is a fair at Banbury for hiring servants, called a Mop. The neighbourhood of Banbury is replete with objects of interest which the Rly. has rendered easy excursions of one day to the inhab. of Oxford; the best of these are Edgehill and Compton Wyniates in Warwickshire, and Broughton Castle and Wroxton Abbey in Oxfordshire.

2½ m. S.W. of Banbury is *Broughton Castle*, the seat of Lord Saye and Sele, which is the most interesting house in Oxfordshire, both as regards its architecture and its history. Its situation is very low, and it is still surrounded by a broad moat filled with water and defended by a tower. Its first appearance is that of a fine Elizabethan mansion, but a considerable portion dates from 1301 to 1307, inclusive of the hall, from which bays were thrown out in 1554, when Tudor windows were inserted instead of Gothic. The latest portion, where are the great dining and drawing-rooms, dates 1599. The old battlements and lower part of the gateway and stables, along the N. side of the moat, date from 1407, when a permission to "crenellate" was granted by Henry IV. William of Wykeham purchased the mansion and estate of the De Broughtons, and bequeathed it to his great-nephew Sir Thomas Wykeham, whose heiress married William Lord Saye and Sele, in the reign of Henry VI. The hall, which contains a number of interesting portraits, among

others that of Nathaniel Fiennes, opens into a state dining-room of the time of Elizabeth, with a curious internal porch added after the Restoration, with the inscription "Quod olim fuit minime juvat." This room contains a large model of St. Peter's (in which the fountains in the piazza play), a curious old picture by *Francesco di San Croce*, portraits of Charles I. and Oliver Cromwell by *Dobson*, and of Prince Maurice by *Mirevelt*; also a curious picture of the embarkation of Charles II. at Schevening. The ceilings of this room, and of the state drawing-room which is over it, are exceedingly beautiful, 1599. The upper room contains a very beautiful picture of Lady Audley, with her daughter, afterwards Lady Saye and Sele, by *Gainsborough*. Beyond the long gallery, with its fine bay windows, is another drawing-room with a stone chimney-piece, having a sculpture of the Dance of the Dryads.

The house bears numerous marks of the perils it underwent, and the scenes which were enacted within it. The hospital is shown where an opening in the wall enabled the sick to hear the mass from the adjoining chapel; the hole behind the shutter upon the staircase, in the thickness of the wall, with the moveable stone to admit air, where, if not Charles I. (as is reported by tradition), others at least may have lain concealed; the secret staircase at the E. end of the castle, by which the midnight council, consisting of Pym, Hampden, Lord Brook, and the leaders of the Puritan party are said to have been admitted to the mysterious stone chamber in which the death of Charles I. was discussed and decided upon. "Lord Saye," says Anthony Wood, "held meetings in his house at Broughton, where was a room and passage thereunto, which his servants were prohibited to come near; and when they were of a

complete number, there would be great noises and talkings heard among them, to the admiration of those that lived in the house, yet could they never discern their lord's companions." Popular tradition says that the entrance of the secret passage by which they gained access to the castle was in "The Giant's Cave," in an enclosure called Bretch, beyond the Broughton toll-gate. At the top of the house, among the oak timbers, is the "Old Barrack Room," where Cromwell's soldiers are said to have lived before the Battle of Edgehill, and on the roof, which opens from this room, is a small house, known as the Officers' Barracks. A beautiful vaulted passage runs round the lower part of the building, and leads in one direction to the chapel, and in the other to the principal staircase. This, before the present staircases were made, must have been the only means of access to the principal apartments, while this end of the house having been the portion appropriated to the state apartments accounts for its richness of decoration. In the small dining-room is some curious old panelling of the earliest napkin pattern. The chapel, which is very lofty and small, has some old stained glass, an encaustic pavement, a stone altar, and a piscina. "The three different periods of the castle may be thus defined; the 14th centy. of the De Broughtons, the 15th of the Wykehams, and the 16th of the Fienneses."

Close to the picturesque gate-house is the ch., of the 14th centy., having a spire and tower, without any parapet at the junction. It contains a fine stone chancel-screen, and an interesting series of tombs. John de Broughton, the founder of the castle; a coloured figure of a knight in armour reclining beneath a canopy, the Fiennes who died in the battle of Barnet, with relics of

his armour hanging above; and the great-nephew of William of Wykeham with his wife.

In the neighbouring parish of *Tadmorton* are the remains of an ancient camp, supposed to have been formed in the 10th centy. Near it is a spring of pure water called the Holy Well. There is a curious old ch., partly Norm. and partly E. E., with some fine wood carving of the 14th centy.

Swaletiffe, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. from hence, contains an ancient British camp called *Madmarston*, with a double intrenchment. At a spot called Blackland, in this parish, numerous Roman remains have been discovered. The ch. is a fine Gothic structure of the 14th centy.

2 m. from Broughton and 3 m. N.W. of Banbury is *Wroxton Abbey*, the seat of Lieut.-Colonel North, once a priory of Augustine monks. It passed, after the dissolution, into the hands of Sir Thomas Pope, the founder of Trinity College, Oxford, who gave it to his new foundation, of whom it was held by the Norths, Earls of Guildford. It was chiefly built in 1618, and the appearance is now that of a fine Tudor manor-house. In spite of the abuse of Walpole, who says that "it is neither good nor agreeable," the interior is very interesting, and contains much beautiful carving brought from Flanders, and many curious portraits. The old hall contains the portrait of Sir T. Pope, said to be by *Holbein*, and the hawking gloves, purse, and bag of the Great Seal, belonging to the Lord Keeper Guildford, which are also seen represented in his portrait. A drawing-room has an exquisite ceiling, and dark oak chimney-piece. In King James's room is a bed used by Charles I., and some other curious furniture of that period; and the Tapestry room contains a bed which belonged to *Mary Queen of Scots*, and a quilt

beautifully worked by her hands. The chapel has a window with stained glass by *Van Linge*, and much oak carving, comprising a curious sacramental chest, with a statue of David upon it. In the gallery is the "North Chest," given by George III., full of plate, to his prime minister Lord North. Among the most valuable pictures are, 1st Earl of Downe in Bath robes; a very curious picture of Prince Henry about to kill a stag, which is held by Lord Harrington; Sir Owen Hopton, 1590; Vandyke, by himself; Elizabeth of Bohemia, *Zuccherro*; Erasmus, *Holbein*; and several good portraits by *Jansen*. James I., Charles I. and his two sons, and George IV. when Prince of Wales, have been visitors here.

"Except one scene, which is indeed noble (says Walpole), I cannot much commend the without doors. This scene consists of a beautiful lake, shut in entirely with wood; the head falls into a fine cascade, and that into a serpentine river, over which is a little Gothic seat, like a round temple, lifted up a shaggy mount."

The ch. contains the monuments of Lord Keeper Guildford (who died here, 1685) and his lady; of Sir W. Pope; 1st Earl of Downe and his lady; of Francis Earl of Guildford and his three wives; and of Lord North the prime minister.

6 m. N. of Banbury the road enters Warwickshire near Edgehill.

Halfway between Banbury and Wroxton a road of 1 m. rt. leads to the remains of Hanwell Castle, which consist of a fine quadrangular brick tower with stone quoins of Henry VII. This was called by Leland "the pleasant and gallant house of Hanwell." Here was the residence of Sir Anthony Cope, one of the early Puritan leaders, who was committed to the Tower by Elizabeth, but afterwards rose high in royal favour, and twice received

James I. and his queen on a visit at Hanwell. He died in 1614, and is buried in the ch. close by. (The Cope family are now represented by the Earls of Aboyne and Delawarr.) It is remarkable that, while the secret movements which led to the great rebellion against Charles I. were carried on at Broughton and Fawsley, those which led to the restoration of Charles II. were carried on at Hanwell.

The ch. has some curious capitals at the S. of its nave, representing grotesque figures playing upon musical instruments, and at the end of the N. aisle, where formerly was an altar, are some figures of saints under Gothic canopies.

1 m. hence on the rt. is the ch. of *Horley*, of the 14th centy., containing a beautiful E. E. piscina, and 1 m. further that of *Hornton*, partly of the 12th and partly of the 13th centy.

Proceeding from Banbury and passing rt. *Great Bourton*, which contains a curious old chapel now used as a schoolroom, we arrive at

89½ *Cropredy Stat.* Here is a fine ch. of the 14th centy., chiefly in the Dec. style. This place is celebrated for the battle of Cropredy Bridge, fought June 29, 1644, by Charles I., who there defeated the Parliamentary forces under Waller, "after which Waller quitted Cropredy, and drew up his whole army on the high grounds which are between Cropredy and Hanwell, opposite to the king's quarters about a mile; the river of Cherwell and some low grounds being between both armies, which had a full view of each other."—*Clarendon*.

The Rly. enters Warwickshire 1½ m. from Cropredy.

ROUTE 16.

OXFORD TO BICESTER.—NORTH WEST RAILWAY, BRANCH FROM OXFORD TO BLETCHLEY.

Trains leave Oxford by a separate station, though almost immediately contiguous to that of the Great Western Railway.

Crossing the river Cherwell, we reach

4 m. *Islip Stat.*, the birthplace of Edward the Confessor. (See Rte. 15.)

Leaving Islip, on the l. is *Wendlebury Ch.*, rebuilt 1762; and beyond, on the same side, is *Chesterton*, with a Dec. tower, Transition Norm. nave, with Dec. additions, and a chancel of mixed Dec. and Perp. There are 3 very excellent E. E. sedilia.

13 m. *Bicester* (pronounced *Bister*).

Inn: King's Arms. Its name is said to be of Saxon origin—Buren-ceastre, from Buren, grain, and Ceastre, a town or station. A market town, with mostly cottage-like houses. The ch., dedicated to St. Eddburgh, has a Perp. tower, some good E. E. and Dec. work in the nave, an arch supposed to be Saxon. The aisles have considerable Perp. additions. Some very curious sculptured panels are built into the S. wall. In the town is a fragment of the Priory of St. Eddburgh, now a dwelling-house.

1½ m. S.W. are faint traces of the Roman *Alchester*, of square form, divided by 4 streets.

3 m. to the W., at *Middleton*

Stony, is *Middleton Park* (Earl of Jersey). Here are some interesting portraits: Duchess of Buckingham and her daughter Mary Duchess of Richmond, with the young Lords George and Francis Villiers,—a fine group by *Vandyke*; George Villiers, 1st Duke of Buckingham, whole length, *Mytens*; Margaret Hughes, mistress of Prince Rupert, *Lely*; the Bedford family, Duke Francis as St. George; Lord Burghersh when young, and the Countess of Westmoreland with a bird, *Sir J. Reynolds*; Lady Jersey in yellow satin, Lord Jersey in robes, whole-lengths, *Lawrence*.

The *Ch.*, which is Trans.-Norm., with a good E. E. arcade outside the tower, is picturesquely situated in the middle of the park. It contains the relic commonly known as the font of Edward the Confessor, though it is apparently not older than Edward I. The vicissitudes of its fortune are alone sufficient to render it interesting. It long remained in a barn of the Red Lion Inn at Islip, whence it was removed to ornament a garden at Kidlington, where Hearne records that an old lady kept her meat to cram turkeys in it, but that the turkeys all died. Thence it went to Layton Farm, near Bicester, and, lastly, being presented to Lady Jersey, it has been very properly restored to its first intention. It bears the inscription,—

“This sacred font Saint Edward first received.
From Womb to Grace, from Grace to Glory went
His virtuous life. To this faire Isle bequeathed
Prase and to us but lent.
Let this remaine, the Trophies of his Fame,
A king baptised from hence a Saint became.”

4 m. further, N.E., near Tusmore, is *Bayard's Green*, which was “one of the three places appointed by King Richard I. for the first authorised tournaments which were held in

England. The lion-hearted King retained to the last a predilection for his native county, and the number of cross-legged effigies connected with the Oxfordshire families prove the ardour with which they entered into his views.”—*Brewer*.

Bucknell Ch., 2½ m. N. of Bicester, has a Norm. tower. *Ardley*, 3 m., has the foundations of a Norm. castle, built in the reign of Stephen. *Fringford Ch.*, 5 m., has a good Norm. doorway; and at *Straton Audley*, 2½ m. N.E., is a fine tomb to Sir John Borlase Warren, 1688. The railway enters Buckinghamshire about 2 m. E. of Bicester. (See Rte. 14.)

ROUTE 17.

HIGH WYCOMBE TO CHIPPING NORTON, BY OXFORD AND WOODSTOCK. [BLENHEIM.]

(Part of the road from London to Birmingham continued from Rte. 10.)

36 m., the road, after leaving High Wycombe, enters Oxfordshire a little above *Stokenchurch*, which is situated on one of the highest points of the Chiltern Hills; the *Ch.* belonged to the priory of Wallingford, and contains memorials of the Morley family. Wormsley, in this parish, the seat of J. Fane, Esq., descended to its present owner from Adrian Scrope, one of the regicides, who

resided here. He was put to death on the Restoration, saying at his execution, "It is no reproach or shame to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, and to die in his cause, for that is it which I judge I am now going to do." Here the road descends by a steep hill into the vale of Oxford.

The beechwoods of Stokenchurch are remarkable for their wild flowers, including *Convallaria majalis*, *lily of the valley*; *Monotropa hypopitys*, *yellow bird's-nest*; *Helleborus viridis*, *green hellebore*; *Orchis herminium*, *musk orchis*; *Listera nidus avis*, *bird's-nest orchis*; *Epipactis latifolia*, *Broad-leaved helleborine*; *Epipactis grandifolia*, *large white helleborine*; *Veronica montana*, *mountain madwort*; *Lysimachia nemorum*, *yellow loosetrife*.

2 m. rt. is *Chinnor*, with a fine Dec. ch., possessing brasses of 1330, 1361, 1380, and some paintings of the Apostles by *Sir J. Thornhill*. This village, which is picturesquely situated in an amphitheatre of the Chiltern Hills, was burnt by the troops under Prince Rupert, on the morning of the battle of Chalgrove Field. The neighbouring village of *Emmington* contains an ancient Norm. (?) ch. ($3\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the l. is *Shirborne Castle*.) (See Rte. 18.)

42½ m. *Tetsworth*, a village remarkable, as all in this neighbourhood, for the manufacture of pillow-lace.

Haseley Court, J. P. Muirhead, Esq.

1½ m. on l. is *Great Milton*, celebrated for its fine ch., chiefly of Dec. date. The nave, pier, arches are E. E., with a Dec. clerestory. The S. aisle has some excellent flowing tracery in its windows. The N. door is good E. E. The chancel has some E. E. parts. Over the S. porch is a small room, formerly used as a vestry, which is approached by a winding staircase, in a picturesque octagon tower. Among the monu-

ments is a blue stone, with an E. E. cross, said to be that of a monk of the neighbouring priory, and a huge monument of the Dormer family (1618), with alabaster figures of Sir Michael Dormer (who served in Germany under Sir H. Vere), his wife, and his father. The tomb of Mrs. Wilkinson, 1654, wife of the Principal of St. Mary Hall, has the epitaph,—

"Here lye mother and babe, born without
sins,
Next birth will make her and her infant
twins."

The house reputed to have belonged to the ancestors of Milton still stands with gables and mullions opposite the village well.

1. hence is *Great Haseley*, whose ch. contains an ancient cross-legged effigy.

40½ m. a road branches out rt. to *Thame*, 3½ m. (*Im*: Eagle), a town of about 3000 people. The ancient *Tamerponta* derives its name from the river so called, which enters the county at this place, and falls into the Isis at *Dorchester*. It consists of one long, broad street, in the centre of which is a butcher's shop, formerly the Greyhound Inn, once the house of *Ezekiel Browne*, in which John Hampden died June 24, 1643, from the wound he had received at Chalgrove Field. He made his way hither from Chalgrove by the brook of Haseley, "where, as in his great agony and weakness it would have been impossible for him, if he had alighted, to have remounted, summoning all his remaining strength, he made his horse leap across the brook. With his head hanging down, and his hands resting upon his horse's neck, he at length arrived at the house of *Ezekiel Browne*, in the street of *Thame*. In the first moments of respite from pain he laboured to condense all his dying energies in the work of sending letters of counsel to the Parliament, and this done he,

devoted the last fleeting hours to his soul. His old friend, Dr. Giles, the Rector of Chinnor, remained by his side and administered the last Sacrament. . . . Through six days he lay dying, and round the bedside of that Captain, upon whom his bitterest enemies could fasten no other action of disrepute but that he was too zealous a Christian," were gathered many (*Weekly Intelligencer*) of those who loved his cause and honoured himself. "As he lay in that great agony he was heard to say that 'if he had twenty lives all should go this way, rather than the gospel of our salvation should be trampled under foot.' During this time he showed a wonderful measure of patience and meekness, being full of divine sentences, speaking as if he felt no pain, saying it was nothing but what he daily expected, and that he had long prepared against that time, and he continued of perfect memory, cheerful spirit, constant in the cause, and encouraging others to the last. (*Weekly Account*.) On the sixth day, having prayed aloud for his country and commended his soul to God, he departed without any pain at all, as if falling off of a sweet slumber into a deep sleep."

The *Ch.* of St. Mary is large and cruciform, with a fine tower. The style is E. E. The S. porch is of great beauty, with a canopied niche and a groined ceiling. The transepts are filled with the monuments of the Dormers (1153) and the Quatremaines (1460) respectively, but the principal tomb is that in the chancel, of Lord Williams of Thame, so distinguished under Queen Mary by his ardour in the burning of the bishops at Oxford, which caused him even to silence the dying Cranmer when he attempted to speak from the stake, by cries of "Make short, make short."—*Foxe*. The figures of the baron and his wife are richly carved in alabaster, in the costume

of the later years of Elizabeth. It is remarkable that they have their heads turned towards the E., instead of their feet. Sir John Clerke, 1539, who took the Duke of Longueville prisoner at the Battle of Spurs, has a brass, fixed to a tomb of Tetworth marble.

N.W. are the remains of an ancient Prebendal House, built by Bishop Grosteste of Lincoln, with a chapel, of 13th cent.

Close to the *ch.* is a fine old *Grammar-school*, founded by Lord Williams, 1558. It is a picturesque gable-ended building. John Hampden was a scholar here, and one may still see the long, low room, with the oak desks at which he studied. Dr. Fell, Antony Wood, and Pococke the orientalist, were also educated here.

Ch. Just. Holt was born at Thame in 1642, of whom Steele says that "He was a man of profound knowledge of the laws of his country, and as just an observer of them in his own person; he considered justice as a cardinal virtue, not as a trade for maintenance, and whenever he was judge he never forgot that he was also counsel."—*Tatler*. Here also was born Figg, so celebrated in the last century for his performances with the broadsword.

Thame Park, Baroness Wenman (1 m.), is built on the site of an abbey removed from Oddington 1138. Considerable remains of the abbey are still to be seen near the modern mansion. The house is partly of the 15th cent., and has a good stair-turret, and a modern Gothic chapel.

Ricote Park (2 m.) belonged to the Quatremaines, but afterwards came to the Earls of Abingdon. They destroyed the house, and employed its materials in the building of Wytham in Berks. Queen Elizabeth was twice a visitor here, once as a prisoner under the care of Sir H. Bedingfield and Lord Williams, and

once in a royal progress after her first visit to Oxford. Charles I. resided here in 1625, while the Parliament were at Oxford. The ruins of the domestic chapel still remain, 1449.

[rt. 1 m. is the Ch. of *Waterperry*, which contains some good points. The chancel is E. E.; the nave Dec. There are some monuments to the Curson family. The modern Ch. of *Waterstock* (1 m.), 1792, contains the tomb of Sir J. Croke, with an inscription by Sir Matthew Hale (date 1641).]

48 m. rt., 1½ m. *Forest Hill*, in the little ch. of which Milton was married to his first wife Mary, daughter of Richard Powell of this place. The house where Mr. Powell lived has been destroyed, but there still remains some ornamental plastering against the wall of 2 outhouses, which seems to be as old as the time of Milton, and contains allusions to the subjects of 'Paradise Lost.' This has been generally supposed to be the spot where Milton composed the 'Allegro' and 'Penseroso,' which were, however, written at his father's house at Horton in Bucks. There is also no record of his ever having lived here, though he may have taken many of his ideas from this place. "The spot whence Milton undoubtedly took most of his images is on the top of the hill, from which there is a most extensive prospect on all sides. . . . the villages and turrets, partly shaded with trees of the finest verdure, and partly raised above the groves that surrounded them, the dark plains and meadows of a greyish colour, where the sheep were feeding at large. . . . The tradition of the poet's having lived there is current among the villagers. One of them showed us a ruinous wall that made part of his chamber; and I was much pleased with another, who had forgotten the name of Milton, but recollected him by the title

of the Poet."—*Sir W. Jones to Lady Spencer.*

[1 m. rt. is *Holton*, where was formerly a fine old moated manor-house. In the parish register is the following remarkable entry:—"Henry Ireton, Commissary General to Sir Thos. Fairfax, and Bridget, daughter to Oliver Cromwell, Lieut.-Genl. of the horse to the said Sir Thos. Fairfax, were married by Mr. Dell, in the Lady Whorwood her house, in Holton, June 15, 1646. Alban Eales, Rector." Milton's ancestors were till lately supposed to have lived at Holton, but the poet is now said to have been the grandson of Richard Milton of Staunton St. John's, who is believed to have been identical with the John Milton of Holton, and ranger of Shotover, mentioned by Aubrey and Wood. In the reign of Elizabeth, Milton was a common name in the villages of the Bullington Hundred.]

Hence the road is ugly and dreary in the extreme till it descends Headington Hill to

54 m. OXFORD (Rte. 15), which the road enters by the suburb of St. Clement's and Magdalen Bridge, and leaves by St. Giles's-street, passing on l. the Radcliffe Infirmary and Observatory.

57 m. *Wolvercote*. (See Rte. 15.)

59 m. l. *Yarnton*, a pretty village, whose E. E. ch. contains some interesting old glass and carving, and a curious stone reredos, with scenes from the life of Christ. A memorial aisle contains the fine coloured tombs of Sir William and Sir Thos. Spencer, with their wives. In the churchyard is a curious E. E. Cross, with figures of saints, much resembling that of Ensham, on which abbey this ch. was formerly a dependency. Similar crosses formerly existed in all the villages dependent on the abbey of Ensham, at which the Abbot performed solemn services on especial occasions. Close to the ch. is a most picturesque old manor-house.

"At Yarnton the gravel-bed has been opened very extensively to 'ballast' the neighbouring railway, and has been found richer than is usual in mammalian remains. At the bottom of the excavation, 16 or 18 ft. deep, is the ordinary bed of Oxford clay. On this rests a moist, partially coherent ferruginous mass, full of quartzose pebbles, drifted from the far-off Silurian hills near Broms-grove; fragments of shelly oolite from the country a little to the N.; pieces of septaria, such as lie in the subjacent clay; and chips of chalk and flint from some other situation. It is not necessary to suppose that all these materials were brought by one agitation of water to their resting-place at Yarnton. On the contrary, it seems more probable that here, in the broad valley, the wide gravel-bed has been collected by secondary actions of water sweeping down from higher situations the fragments which had been scattered by previous currents of the ocean. Here were found in great abundance bones, teeth, and tusks of several quadrupeds; viz., boar, goat, ox, horse, and elephant. As in many other cases known to geologists, teeth and tusks are the most abundant remains of the elephant. They are so numerous, and appear so perfect while in the ground, as to assure us of the existence, at no very remote period, of whole herds of these animals."—*Prof. Phillips in the 'Oxford Essays,' 1855.*

60 m. *Begbroke*, or *Beckbrooke*. The small *Ch.* has some Norm. details.

62 m. 1. is *Bladon*, celebrated for its loyal rector Dr. Matthew Griffith, who fought so courageously in the defence of Basing House, where his daughter lost her life.

Skirting the park-wall of Blenheim, and passing through an avenue of trees, leaving on the l. the private entrance, the road reaches

63 m. *WOODSTOCK* (*Inn*: Bear),

a quiet town of 1262 Inhab, returning one M.P. It is celebrated for its fawn-skin gloves, the manufacture of which, though much reduced, still employs 1000 or 1200 persons, chiefly in the villages around. The leather is bleached in the sun, and may be seen hanging on the hedges and bushes. Gloves, waistcoats, ladies' tippets, &c., may be purchased at Green's and Crosse's shops.

Woodstock was an ancient residence of the kings of England. Alfred here translated Boethius' 'De Consolatione.' Henry I. established here the earliest Zoological Garden, where, "beside great store of deer, he appointed divers strange beasts to be kept and nourished, which were brought and sent to him from foreign countries far distant, as lions, leopards, lynxes, and porcupines."—*Hollinshed*. Henry II. rendered the place famous by his love of Fair Rosamund:—

"For whose defence
Against the furious Queen
At Woodstock he built such a bower,
The like was never seen.

"Most curiously that bower was built,
Of stone and timber strong;
An hundred and fifty doors
Did to this bower belong.

"And they so cunningly contriv'd,
With turnings round about,
That none but with a clue of thread
Could enter in or out."

Nevertheless, according to the old legend, Queen Eleanor *did* enter and poisoned Rosamund, though it is more probable that she really died at Godstow nunnery, where she had been educated, and where she was afterwards buried. Henry III. was nearly murdered here by a priest called Ribaud, who climbed into the royal bedchamber by night through the window, but was discovered while entering, and was (according to Matthew of Westminster) torn to pieces by wild horses. Edmund of Woodstock, 2nd son of Edward I., and Thomas of Woodstock, 7th son of Edward III.,

took their name from this, which was their birthplace. Edward the Black Prince was also born here. Elizabeth was confined here as princess by her sister Mary, and narrowly escaped being burnt in her bedroom, which took fire, during her stay. Seeing a milkmaid from the palace windows, she wept through envy of her condition, and wrote on the shutter the lines—

"O Fortune, how thy restless wavering state
Hath wrought with cares my troubled witt!
Witness this present prison whither fate
Could bear me, and the joys I quit.
Thou caus'dst the guilty to be loosed
From bandes wherein are innocents en-
clos'd;
Causing the guiltles to be strait reserved,
And freeing those that death have well de-
served.
But by her malice can be nothing wrought;
So God send to my foes all they have
thought.

"A.D. 1555.

ELIZABETH, Prisoner."

During the time that the palace was occupied by the Parliamentary Commissioners in 1649, for the purpose of surveying the royal property, they were terrified by the ghostly tricks of Joe Collins, "the Merry Devil of Woodstock," the prototype of "Wildrake" in Scott's novel of 'Woodstock.' At the time of their occurrence the ghostly origin of these tricks was almost universally credited, and the resident clergy described them in a diary, which was afterwards published.

The palace was remarkable for its embellishments of ancient art. "The great chamber of Henry III. was adorned with pictures, and there was a representation of the Cross, of the blessed Mary, and St. John, in the great chapel. Over this were also two pictures representing two bishops, and another of the blessed Mary in the chapel of St. Edward. The old chapel showed the history of the Woman taken in Adultery, the Conversion of St. Paul, and the history of the Evangelists. We also find an order for represent-

ing a Maestà of the enthroned Saviour or Virgin Mary, of the four Evangelists, St. Edmund and St. Edward."—Arch. Inst., 1854.

Of the "ancient and renowned (royal) mansion not a stone is now to be seen, but the site is still marked in the turf of Blenheim Park by two sycamores, which grow near the stately bridge."—*Macaulay*.

"That well-built palace where the Graces made
Their chief abode, where thousand Cupids play'd
And couch'd their shafts, whose structure did delight
Ev'n Nature's self, is now demolish'd quite."—*May*.

The poet Chaucer resided at Woodstock, and is supposed to have taken much of the scenery of 'The Dream' from the neighbouring park.

Passing by the *Ch.* (partly rebuilt 1785), much blocked up with galleries, but sending merry chimings from its tower, we reach the public entrance to *Blenheim Park*, the seat of the Duke of Marlborough.

Visitors may make the circuit of the park in their carriages, but not unless they are accompanied by a keeper on horseback, whom they will find at the lodge. They may either make the whole circuit of 5 m. or the smaller one of 2. The palace is shown every day except Saturday from 11 to 1. Tickets are obtained at the Porter's Lodge for the house and gardens, costing 1s. each. No other fees are required unless for the Titian gallery, which is not shown unless specially asked for.

The entrance to the park from the town of Woodstock is by a triumphal arch, erected by the Duchess Sarah to her husband after his decease; beyond it you find yourself on the edge of a steep bank, washed by a lake, with undulating ground and hanging woods beyond. The collection of china is in a separate building on the hand as you enter the park.

The *Park*, containing 2700 acres, and about 12 m. in circuit, is remarkable for the variety of its surface. It abounds with old oaks and cedars, and is stocked with deer. The trees are so planted in groups as to form a plan of the battle of Blenheim, each battalion of soldiers being represented by a separate plantation. The lake (supplied by the Glynne rivulet) contains 260 acres, and was formed by "Capability Brown," who boasted that the Thames would never forgive him for what he had done here. It is crossed by a noble bridge of three arches, which, until the formation of the lake, bestrode a mere dribble of water, so that Walpole said of it, that, "like the beggars at the old Duchess's gate, it begged for a drop of water and was refused." Hence also it gave rise to the epigram:—

"The lofty arch his high ambition shows,
The stream an emblem of his bounty flows."

Now, "the epigram is drowned."

Passing the house on the l., and crossing this bridge, we reach on the summit of the opposite hill the *Column*, 134 ft. high, erected as a monument to the great Duke, surmounted by his colossal statue. Inscribed on the pedestal is an account of his victories, of tremendous length, by his chaplain Hare, Bishop of Chichester. "Three sides are filled with the Acts of Parliament conferring on Marlborough his honours and domains; the 4th, facing the house, is occupied with a panegyric of his virtues drawn up by Bolingbroke, and which, while it boasts of the justice, candour, and superior virtue of the great Duke, forcibly calls to mind some of those great weaknesses which stain his character." The house appears to great advantage from this point. At the base of the hill, by the water-side, near the bridge, is *Fair Rosamund's Well*, so called from a tradition that this rill supplied her bath during

her residence in her "Bower," which stood in this part of the park. Sir John Vanbrugh, much to his credit, argued pathetically for its preservation. "It was raised," he writes, "by one of the bravest and most warlike of the English kings, and, though it has not been famed as a monument of his arms, it has been tenderly regarded as the scene of his affections. Nor, among the multitude of people who come daily to view what is raising to the memory of the great battle of Blenheim, are there any that do not more eagerly ask to see what ancient remains there may be of Rosamund's Bower." He desired to preserve the old Manor as a picturesque object, which it then was, to be seen from the palace, but the Duchess, perhaps imagining that he had an eye to it as a residence for himself, certainly to spite him and save 200*l.* on its repair, gave orders to sweep it entirely away in 1709. A little tract in the lake, called *Queen Elizabeth's Island*, is part of an ancient causeway leading to the Manor-house, which, stood 100 yds. distant to the N. There are no traces of the Labyrinth; indeed its existence is now regarded by historians as fabulous.

There is a fine view from the *High Lodge*, a curious old building, once the residence of a celebrated ranger of this park, the Earl of Rochester, whose profligate life was such, that when he jokingly asked an Oxford undergraduate—

"Pray, Mr. Student, can you tell
Which is the nearest way to hell?"

he justly received the reply—

"Some say Woodstock, I say nay,
For Rochester's the nearest way."

He died here July 26, 1680, at the age of 34, having, in his last illness, been brought to repentance through the instrumentality of Bp. Burnet, who frequently visited him with Dr. Fell, then Dean of Christ Ch. Burnet declares that he became thoroughly convinced of the truth

of Christianity during the reading of Isaiah liii.: "the words of which," he said, "had an authority which did shoot like rays or beams in his mind, so that he was convinced by a power which did so effectually constrain him, that he did ever after as firmly believe in his Saviour as if he had seen him in the clouds."

The royal manor of Woodstock was settled upon John Duke of Marlborough (by tenure of a standard presented at Windsor every 2nd of August), in consideration of his success over the allied army of French and Bavarians, and the sum of half a million was voted by parliament to build him a palace "as a monument of his glorious actions." It took the name of Blenheim from the little village on the Danube (properly Blindheim) which was the scene of his greatest victory, August 2nd, 1704. The building is considered the masterpiece of Vanbrugh, yet is so heavy in its general effect that it gave occasion to the epitaph on the architect—

"Lie heavy on him, Earth, for he
Laid many a heavy load on thee."

The building was commenced June 18, 1705, and the history of its construction is a series of petty squabbles, malicious thwarting on the part of the Duchess, and a niggardly withholding of money. Vanbrugh, it is true, was extravagant, but not only was he cheated of his salary, but was even refused admittance to see his own work by an order from the hand of Atossa herself. In 1710 the Duchess stopped the works, and desired the workmen to pay no attention to the architect's orders. Already, in 1704, she had written on a contract for lime, "Is not that 7½d. per bushel a very high price, when they had the advantage of making it in the park? Besides in many things of that nature false measure has been proved." In 1714, 220,000*l.* had been received from the Treasury; the debts due by the Crown

amounted to 60,000*l.* besides; and even the shell of the building was not completed. The Duke died without ever inhabiting it. By will he left 10,000*l.* a year to the Duchess, according to Vanbrugh "to spoil Blenheim in her own way," and 12,000*l.* a year "to keep herself clean and go to law." The Duchess really did finish it in her lifetime at a total expenditure of 300,000*l.*, of which 60,000*l.* was furnished by the Duke and Duchess from their own resources.

The entrance to the *Gardens* is close to the E. wing of the house: on ringing a bell the gardener will appear. The pleasure-grounds, except in their extent, do not differ from many others in England. A large part is now a full-grown grove of tall trees, whose refreshing shades, and walks of velvet turf, are particularly agreeable in summer. The walks lead to the *Temple of Health*, erected on the recovery of George III. from his illness 1789, and thence to the *Aviary*. Near this are some very old oaks and laurels of great size. Traversing an open grass-plot, called the *Sheep Walk*, a good view is obtained of the garden front of the house, the centre surmounted by a trophy of one of the Duke's victories, a colossal bust of Louis XIV., which once stood above the principal gate of Tournay. Further on is the *Cascade*, "so admirably constructed of large masses of rock, brought from a great distance, that it is difficult to believe it artificial." Beyond this is the *Fountain*, copied from that in the Piazza Navona at Rome, adorned with statues of river gods by *Bernini*, presented to the great Duke by the Spanish ambassador. In the *Private Garden*, only shown by special order, are bronze copies from the antique of the *Listening Slave* and the *Wrestler*, and the *Ionic temple* of *Diana*, designed by Sir *William Chambers*. The flower-gardens

include the rarest plants from all parts of the world, especially from New Holland, Norfolk Island, &c., some of them brought hither from White Knights, near Reading (formerly a seat of the Duke of Marlborough), interspersed among the venerable stems of gnarled oaks, relics of the old Forest.

The exterior of the Palace is heavy in the extreme, but imposing from its extent, its varied outline, and the skilful combination of towers, colonnades, and porticoes. "Much as Vaubrugh sinned against the principles of his art by breaking the masses and main lines, by heaviness, and overloading the ornamental parts, yet it affords at a distance very picturesque views; and the interior is very striking, by the size of the apartments, the beauty of the materials, the richness and splendour of the decorations."—*Waagen*.

The ground plan consists of a centre, throwing forward 2 wings connected with it by colonnades; each wing being a quadrangle. The entrance is by the E. or kitchen wing, where the Titian gallery is now situated, on the site of the old Theatre. Thus the mass of the building forms 3 sides of a square, enclosing a court, which is entered from the E. wing by an arch decorated with an emblematic sculpture of a lion grappling a cock.

The most remarkable apartments are the *Hall*, extending the whole height of the building, whose ceiling is an allegorical composition on the Battle of Blenheim; the great *Dining-room*, almost filled with pictures by Rubens and Vandyke; the *Saloon*, whose ceiling and walls are a masterpiece of *Laquerre*; the *State Drawing-room*; the *Library*, 180 ft. long, containing the collection of 17,000 volumes formed by Charles *Earl of Sunderland*, and a marble statue of *Queen Anne*, by *Rysbrack*, in her coronation-robos of brocade and jewels. The *Chapel* contains a

pompous marble monument by *Rysbrack*, beneath which rest the conqueror of Blenheim and Ramillies, the capturer of 20 fenced cities, and his proud Duchess Sarah, with their 2 sons, who died young. Here is a beautiful pulpit, in the Lombard style, made of Derbyshire spar.

The great attraction of Blenheim is its *Collection of Paintings*, which, both in extent and selectness, is one of the finest in Britain.

The enthusiastic German critic *Waagen* says, "If nothing were to be seen in England but Blenheim, with its park and treasures of art, there would be no reason to repent the journey to this country." The pictures by Rubens, some of them presented to the Duke by the Emperor of Germany and the great cities of the Netherlands, others purchased by himself, for he was a great admirer of Rubens, are undoubtedly genuine works of the master, almost entirely by his own hand, and chiefly of his earlier and middle periods, and form a series such as no private cabinet in Europe can boast of. There are some excellent portraits by Vandyke, and a few beautiful pictures by Italian masters. As, from the constant change in their hangings, it is impossible to describe the pictures according to their rooms, a few of the best are here enumerated in alphabetical order:—*Baroccio*: Portrait of a Boy, dressed as a Knight of Santiago of Spain.—*Carlo Dolce*: 1, Madonna crowned with stars, her eyes upturned—"the expression noble, and less weak and mawkish than usual; the drawing fine, the colour uncommonly clear, the execution extremely delicate; the hand which is stretched out is justly admired for its beauty and truth to nature."—*W.* 2, Adoration of the Magi, less affected and *truer* in the feeling than usual.—*Claude*: Sea-view with trees. *Waagen* attributes it to Paul Brill.—*Closterman*: the portrait of John Duke of Marl-

borough (in the Hall), with Sarah Duchess, the Marquis of Blandford, their son, who died young, and four daughters.—*Cuyp*: Alehouse Door, with Dort in the distance; a beautiful specimen of this master.—*Coreggio*: Study for the Angel in the picture of the Agony in the Garden (Duke of Wellington).—*Gainsborough*: Portrait of John Duke of Bedford.—*L. Giordano*: 1, Nymphs and Satyrs. 2, Death of Seneca, highly finished for the master.—*Giorgione*: St. Jerome in meditation, a fine picture; Virgin and Child, attended by a female, and a warrior-saint.—*Guido*: Head of the Virgin.—*Holbein*: Head of a Man, true to nature (about 1530); portrait of Edward VI.—*Kneller*: Sarah Duchess of Marlborough. "Far more natural, careful, and delicate than the majority of pictures of his manufacture; the ambitious, proud, violent character (of Atossa) is fully expressed in the features."—*W.* 2, Ditto, as Minerva. 3, John Duke of Marlborough. 4, King William III. 5, Queen Anne.—*Sir P. Lely*: portraits of Mrs. Morton and Mrs. Killigrew. "Proves by its delicate, clear colour, and elegant design, that Lely's attempts to imitate or rival Vandyke were not always unsuccessful."—*W.*—*Murillo*: two pictures, Scenes with Beggar Boys.—*Mytens*: George Villiers Duke of Buckingham holding a letter.—*Raphael*: 1, The celebrated MADONNA D'ANSIDEI, the gem of the collection, painted as an altarpiece for the chapel of the Ansidei in the church of the Serviti at Perugia, a highly important and admirable work of the master, in excellent preservation, painted after Raphael's first residence in Florence, and dated 1505. "A picture of surpassing beauty and dignity. Besides the dreamy intensity of feeling of the school of Perugino, we perceive here the aim at a greater freedom and truth of nature, founded on thorough study."—*Kugler*. "All the parts of the picture are executed with great care and in a solid impasto. The general impression of the colours is clear, forcible, and harmonious. In the flesh the shadows are grey, the local tone delicately yellowish, and the lights whitish."—*W.* The Predella of this altarpiece, "St. John preaching in the wilderness," is at Bowood. 2, portrait of Dorothea, a beautiful woman in a red robe; 3, copies of Madonna and Child, Belle Jardinière (an old copy); of Ma. del Popolo; of Ma. di Loretto.—*Rembrandt*: 1, Isaac blessing Jacob; 2, The Woman taken in Adultery, $\frac{1}{2}$ -length figures, size of life, "in a clear, full tone, the treatment careful, though broad; the expression of Christ very noble."—*W.* 3, The Circumcision.—*Sir Joshua Reynolds*: George Spencer, third Duke of Marlborough, his Duchess and 6 children: "a capital work; the arrangement, so rarely satisfactory in such pictures, is here careful and pleasing." It combines great animation in all the heads, and very careful execution of the details, with a general harmony in a full bright tone of colouring."—*W.* 2, Lady Charlotte Spencer as a gipsy girl, telling her brother his fortune; most charming from its simplicity, clear and warm; portraits of the Marquis of Tavistock; Lord Charles Spencer.—*Rubens*: 1, The Angel leading Lot and his family out of Sodom; a gift of the city of Antwerp to the Duke of Marlborough; one of Rubens' choicest works of his middle period. 2, Return of the Holy Family from Egypt; "in a cool, serene, subdued tone, which makes this one of his most remarkable and delightful productions."—*W.* 3, The Roman Daughter. "The subject is discreetly treated; the affecting expression of filial piety is happily brought forward; the execution is careful, the admirable colouring true." 4, Head

of Paracelsus the Chemist, a fine landscape in the background very carefully executed. 5, Adoration of the Magi. 6, Christ blessing little children; portraits of the person for whom the picture was painted and his family in Flemish dress. They display "simple truth to nature, full of health and life, freely yet carefully modelled in a full warm tone. The head of the woman is a real masterpiece for clearness, softness, and relief. On the other hand, dignity is admirably expressed in Christ's displeasure with his 3 disciples. The colouring is of astonishing warmth and depth."—*W.* 7, The Holy Family: "of his later period, in a rather common Flemish taste; colouring brilliant."—*W.* 8, Virgin and Child on a throne, surrounded by 6 angels, SS. Catherine, Barbara, Dominic; 3 monks, the Archduke Albert of Austria, Ferdinand, and Archduchess Eugenia Isabella; sketch for a larger work; "a beautiful composition, the heads extremely fine and animated, the forms not exaggerated."—*W.* 9, Rubens' portrait. 10, Rape of Proserpine—colossal figure, "a capital work, executed throughout with the greatest care by his own hand; flesh throughout of a light subdued tone. In Diana a beauty of form seldom met with in Rubens."—*W.* 11, a Bacchanalian Festival. 12, Anne of Austria, Queen of Louis XIII.—*W.* 13, his wife, Helena Forman, with her son, or a page, in the dress of an archduchess: "very fine, animated, and elegant, and truly brilliant in colouring."—*W.* 13, Andromeda (rather heavy) chained to the rock, Perseus in the distance. 14, Rubens, and his 2nd wife, Helena Forman, walking in a garden; she holds her child in leading-strings. Presented to the Duke of Marlborough by the city of Brussels. A most pleasing representation of domestic happiness, and one of the most successful family pieces in the world. "If no

other picture of Rubens existed, this alone would prove him to be one of the greatest painters that ever lived. The execution careful and perfect, the colouring deep and full, the whole in pleasing and perfect harmony; in all these respects Rubens never surpassed this masterpiece.—*W.* 15, Venus and Cupid trying to dissuade Adonis from the Chace: presented to the first Duke of Marlborough by the Emperor of Germany. "Refined feeling, beautiful heads, noble forms, are here united with brightness, warmth, and clearness of colouring."—*W.* 16, a Procession of Bacchanals. "In this corpulent Silenus, in this negro, these nymphs, the vulgarly sensual passion of beastly drunkenness is expressed in all its force."—*W.* 17, The Graces—Rubens' 3 wives. 18, Lot and his daughters. 19, The Adoration of the Magi.—*Bern. Strozzi*: St. Lawrence. "For force of colouring and careful execution, a very remarkable work of this affected master."—*W.*—*Teniers*: numerous good pictures.—*Titian*: 1, St. Nicholas of Bari, and St. Catherine. "A bright, clear, carefully executed picture of the master's early period."—*W.* 2, Portrait of Philip II. of Spain, husband of Mary of England, admirably drawn and warmly coloured. 3, St. Sebastian. "Noble expression, flesh-tone warm and clear."—*Van Dyk*: 1, Lord Strafford and his Secretary, Sir Thomas Mainwaring, $\frac{1}{2}$ length. Strafford's head exhibits the workings of earnest thought, while he dictates an answer to the paper (some say his death-warrant) which he holds in his hand. "Very careful execution, tone clear and warm." "A portrait which condenses into one point of time, and exhibits at a single glance, the whole history of a disturbed and eventful life—in which the eye seems to scrutinize us, and the mouth to command us—in which the brow menaces, and the lip almost quivers

with scorn—in which every wrinkle is a comment on some important transaction.”—*Macaulay*. 2, Charles I. on a cream-coloured horse; at his side Sir Thomas Morton, Master of the Horse, bearing his helmet; in the background a skirmish of cavalry. This belonged to the Royal Collection, and was purchased by the first Duke at Munich. “The style of the clear, warm-toned flesh, as well as of the landscape, reminds one of Titian. The horse rather clumsy.”—*W.* 3, Charles I. and his Queen. “Elegantly executed in a clear, silvery tone.”—*W.* 4, Duchess of Buckingham, with her 3 children, painted after the assassination of the Duke by Felton in 1628. His portrait hangs in the background. 5, Portrait of Charles I. in black, half-length. 6, Henrietta Maria, whole-length, in blue silk. 7, Marie de Medici, widow of Henri IV., and mother of Henrietta Maria. 8, Catherine Countess of Chesterfield. 9, Mary Stuart Duchess of Richmond, whole-length, with her female dwarf, Mrs. Gibson, the miniature painter, holding a pair of gloves on a salver (“of the later and elegant time of the master”). 10, Madonna and Child. 11, Time clipping the wings of Cupid.—*Wouvermans*: 2 fine pictures, battle-pieces.

The *Titian Gallery* is a small room so named from 9 pictures painted on leather, and attributed to Titian, which were given by Victor Amadeus, Duke of Savoy, to the great Duke of Marlborough. The subjects are, the loves of—1. Mars and Venus; 2. Cupid and Psyche; 3. Apollo and Daphne; 4. Pluto and Proserpine; 5. Hercules and Dejanira; 6. Vulcan and Ceres; 7. Bacchus and Ariadne; 8. Jupiter and Juno; 9. Neptune and Amphitrite.

“These pictures are painted on large pieces of leather, after the fashion of the hangings which were in vogue in the middle ages, each of

them with an architectural border. The absurd taste of these borders, which is of a later period, is alone sufficient to prove that the pictures cannot be by Titian, and this is still more evident from the pictures themselves. Where should we ever find in this greatest of colourists such heaviness and opacity and such red shadows as here in the flesh of the male figures? The character of the heads, the occasionally hard forms, and the feebleness of the drawing, particularly in many of the feet, indicate the style of Alessandro Varotari, called Il Padovanino, born in 1590, died 1650, by which master these are, however, comparatively careful and select works.”—*Waagen*.

65 m. *Glympton*. The ch. contains the fine monument of Thomas Tesdale, 1610, who founded Pembroke College for the benefit of scholars from Abingdon grammar-school. The 5000l. was first left by him to Baliol College, but on Baliol declining it Pembroke was founded. His wife Maude is described as having “lovingly anointed Christ Jesus in his poore members at Glympton, Charlbury, Ascote, &c.”

67 m. 1. 1 m. *Ditchley* (Viscount Dillon), celebrated in Sir Walter Scott's novel of ‘Woodstock.’ The house, called by Evelyn “a low timber house with a pretty bowling-green,” is now a large stone edifice with 2 fighting statues on the top, and is considered a masterpiece of its architect, *Gibbs*. The rooms are not large, but contain some old tapestry and fine pictures; among them, James II. as Duke of York, with Anne Hyde and the Princesses Mary and Anne, *Sir Peter Leely*; Sir Fras. Drake, in a shirt embroidered with globes (which were his arms); Prince Henry in robes of the Bath; Sir Fras. Lee, full-length and almost naked; the Duchess of Cleveland; Catherine of Braganza; Mary of Modena. 2 portraits of Sir Henry Lee—one in youth, with his dog

Bevis, the other at 86, when the condescension of a visit from James I. at his retirement of Lee's Rest had induced him to go again to Court. This Sir Henry Lee was confounded by Sir Walter Scott with another who lived temp. Charles I., and was thus introduced into his novel of 'Woodstock' (see Rte. 11). The story of Bevis is that "a servant had formed a design to rob the house and to murder his master. But, on the night when this project was intended to be put into execution, the dog, though no favourite, nor indeed ever before taken notice of by his master, accompanied him up stairs, crept under the bed, and could not be driven away by the attendant; when at length Sir Henry ordered him to be left, and in the dead of night the treacherous servant, entering the room to execute his design, was instantly seized by the dog, and, on being secured, confessed his intention."

The ch. of *Spilsbury* (3 m. 1.) contains the tomb of Sir Henry Lee, temp. Elizabeth, in white marble, with his children kneeling, and of Lord and Lady Lichfield, "the most graceful bridegroom and the most beautiful bride of the court of Charles II."

69, 1 m. rt. *Enstone*, so called from the *Enta-stan*, or *Giant's Stone*, a large upright stone 8 ft. high, formerly forming part of a cromlech, of which the other stones still remain near it. It is commonly known in the neighbourhood as the *Hoar Stone*. Similar stones have given names to other places in the neighbourhood, as at *Lidstone*, *Taston*, *Broadstone*, and *Barton*. The ch., formerly dependent on *Winchcombe Abbey*, is dedicated to *St. Kenelm*, a pious son of *Kenulphus*, King of *Mercia*, whose burial-place is said to have become known through an angel dropping on the high altar of *St. Peter's* at *Rome* a paper inscribed in golden Saxon letters—

"In Clent cow-pasture under a thorn,
Of head bereft lies Kenelm, king-born."

It contains some good *Trans.-Norm.* arches and part of an ancient rood-loft. By an ancient custom christenings and weddings were always performed here in the porch, and women were churched there. A detailed history of *Enstone* was published by its vicar, the Rev. J. Jordan, in 1857.

At *Neat Enstone*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S., were some famous waterworks, established by *Thomas Bushell*, secretary to *Lord Bacon*, which were visited with much pomp by *Charles I.* and *Henrietta Maria* when they were resident in the neighbourhood in 1636. *Evelyn*, in 1664, says, "I went to see the famous wells, artificial and natural grotto, and fountains, called *Bushell's Wells*. It is an extraordinary solitude. There be here two mummies and a grotto, where he lay in a hammock like an Indian."

$\frac{4}{5}$ m. W. is *Great Tew* (*M. P. Boulton, Esq.*), once the seat of *Lucius Cary*, "the blameless Lord Falkland." His house no longer exists, and the present mansion is quite modern, but an old gateway of his time remains, and in the *Church* Lord Falkland is buried, not only without a monument, but, owing to the haste with which his body, transferred from the fatal fight of *Newbury*, was interred, and the few witnesses, even the place of his grave is unknown.

"He was," says *Clarendon*, "a person of such prodigious parts of learning and knowledge, of that inimitable sweetness and delight in conversation, of so flowing and obliging a humanity and goodness to mankind, and of that primitive simplicity and integrity of life, that, if there were no other brand upon the odious and accursed civil war than that single loss, it must be most infamous and execrable to all posterity. He fell, aged 34, having so

much despatched the true business of life that the eldest rarely attain to that immense knowledge, and the youngest enters not into the world with more innocency.

"His house being within little more than 10 m. of Oxford, he contracted familiarity and friendship with the most polite and accurate men of that university, who found such an immenseness of wit and such a solidity of judgment in him, so infinite a fancy bound in by a most logical ratiocination, such a vast knowledge that he was not ignorant in anything, yet such an excessive humility as if he had known nothing, that they frequently resorted and dwelt with him, as in a college situated in a purer air; so that his house was a university in a less volume, whither they came not so much for repose as for study, and to examine and refine those grosser propositions which laziness and consent made current in vulgar conversation."—*Clarendon*, b. vii.

The ch., which has a beautiful fringed door of late Norm., an E. E. porch, and is approached by an ancient classic gateway, has a good wooden pulpit, contains two old effigies of a crusader and a lady, temp. Edward II. In the chancel a fine monument by Sir F. Chantrey to Mrs. Boulton, 1829. The original Gothic seats remain. There is a magnificent brass to Sir J. Wilcote and his lady, 1410, and another of William Bolby and his wife Agnes, 1500, and a good Perp. font. Near the altar a tablet to a daughter of Rachel Viscountess Falkland, 1674.

The village in the hollow is most picturesque, of rich yellow stone cottages, with a stone fountain at either end, in a richly wooded and diversified country.

71 m. rt. is *Heythrop Park*, formerly the seat of the Earl of Shrewsbury, which was burnt, February, 1831. The picturesque ruins and

portico of the house, reddened and charred by the flames, still remain among the fine trees of the park, and a belt of dark ilex and cedars mark the site of the former garden. In the park, near the house, is the modern Roman Catholic chapel. The old ch., near the entrance of the park, has some Norm. portions, a doorway, and some sculptures built into the S. wall; also a good brass, date 1521, on a panelled tomb.

73 m. *Chapel House*, a celebrated inn of coaching days, now abandoned; once a chapel of Cold-Norton Priory.

74 m. *Chipping Norton*, Pop. 3031. *Inn*: White Hart, very good. Built on a bleak eminence. The town consists chiefly of one broad street of handsome stone houses on the ridge of the hill. In the valley is the large and fine ch. of St. Mary, which is chiefly Perp., with a beautiful open clerestory and an elegant Dec. chancel. The S. aisle has a beautiful sexangular porch. There are two fine altar-tombs with effigies of the families of Richards and Croft, and some remains of an ancient rood-loft. The town-hall is a small Gothic building of the 15th centy. "Near it is a rich doorway of the 13th centy., with good mouldings and the tooth ornament."—*H. P.*

Here is a stat., a branch line of the Oxford and Worcester Rly. The stat. is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. out of the town. (See Rte. 20.)

At Churchill, a village 5 m. S.W. of Chipping Norton, Warren Hastings was born, 1732. The very house is pointed out to strangers, and his birth is noted in the parish register. Some have considered Daylesford, a neighbouring parish of Worcestershire, though included in Gloucestershire, 5 m. from Churchill, as his birthplace. His grandfather was rector, it is true, and the manor had been held by a Hastings from the time of Henry II. The grand-

father having been reduced to poverty, Warren Hastings was brought up as a charity-boy in Churchill school. At the foot of the hill on which that village stands runs a brook which falls into the Evenlode and thence into the Isis. "To lie beside the margin of that stream," he wrote in later years, "was one of my favourite recreations; and there, one bright summer's day, when I was scarce 7 years old, I well remember that I first formed the determination to repurchase Daylesford. I was then dependent upon those whose condition scarcely raised them above the pressure of absolute want; yet, somehow or other, the child's dream, as it did not appear unreasonable at the moment, so, in after years, never faded away."—*Fragment of an Autobiog. Memoir*.

76 m. Little Rolwright, a short distance on the rt. on the verge of the county, is its most remarkable object of antiquity, generally known as the *Rollrich*, *Rowlárich*, or *Rollenwright stones*. They are like Stonehenge and Avebury, though on a much smaller scale, and of the same mysterious origin, being pronounced by Bede to be the second wonder in the kingdom. Their situation is dreary in the extreme, as, debarred from the wild grandeur given by Salisbury plain, or pastoral beauties, as at Avebury, they are isolated in the midst of ploughed fields, while the interior of the circle is occupied by a clump of gloomy fir-trees. The stones of this circle appear to have been originally 60, but many are now buried beneath the turf, and few rise more than 4 ft. from the ground, except one at the N. point, which is 7 ft. 4 in. high. N.E. of the circle, at a distance of 84 yds., is another weird-looking stone of strange shape, about 8 ft. high, known as the King Stone. From it there is an extensive view over all the long ranges of neighbouring hills, except towards Long Compton,

which is hid by an abrupt brow of land.

According to popular tradition, the whole assemblage is a kind of petrified court. The person now converted into the King Stone would have been King of England if he could but have perceived Long Compton, which can be clearly seen at the distance of 6 yds. from its base,—according to the popular rhyme—

"If Long Compton I can see,
King of England I shall be;"

the hopes of the king being frustrated by,—

"Rise up, my men, and down with the stone,
For King of England you shall be none."

The 5 larger stones in a separate field about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the S.E. (which are supposed by Dr. Stukely to have formed a kistvaen) were 5 knights attendant on his majesty, who were petrified while in the act of conspiring against him, and hence are still called "the Whispering Knights;" the rest were common soldiers. Dr. Plot thinks that the monument may have been erected by Rollo upon a victory over some rebels against King Athelstan, whose leader may possibly have been persuaded to this rebellion by a conditional prophecy that he should come to the kingdom when he should see Long Compton.

3 m. N. is *Hook Norton*, where there is a British camp and a fine Gothic ch. which contains a curious font of the 12th centy.

This manor was held by Ela Countess of Warwick, by the tenure of "carving before the king, and to have the knife with which she carved." Camden says that the inhabitants of this place were formerly such clowns, that "to be born at Hooknorton became a proverb to denote rudeness and ill-breeding."

3 m. S.W. is *Chastleton*, where there is a fine old manor-house,

beyond which is the *Four Shire Stone*, 9 ft. high, at which meet the 4 shires of Oxford, Gloucester, Worcester, and Warwick, the names of which are cut on the 4 sides of the pillar. This stone is said to stand on the spot where a battle was fought between the English and the Danes, in which the latter, under Canute, were totally defeated by Edmund Ironside.

A short distance after leaving Little Rolwright, the road enters Warwickshire.

ROUTE 18.

HIGH WYCOMBE TO OXFORD, BY WATLINGTON AND CHALGROVE FIELD.

The road is the same as the high road (Rte. 17) to Oxford, till

39 m. it turns off l. to *Lewknor*. The fine ch. here has a Dec. chancel, a sepulchral recess with canopies, a brass to a priest, 1370, a beautiful stone effigy, and a curious enriched Norm. font.

1 m. hence is *Shirbourne Castle* (E. of Macclesfield), an ancient moated castle, founded in the reign of Edward III. by Sir Warine de Lisle. The existing edifice is chiefly of Perp. date, and is surrounded by a wide moat, approached by drawbridges and defended by a port-


cullis. It is nearly square, enclosing a courtyard with round towers at the angles. The interior is modernized, but contains an armoury and a few very fine portraits: among these are a magnificent head of Erasmus by *Holbein*; Archbishop Laud, *Vandyke*; Chancellor Macclesfield; and the celebrated picture of Queen Katherine Parr. "She is represented standing behind a highly embellished vacant chair, with her hand on the back; her dress is black, richly ornamented with precious stones: her fingers are loaded with rings, and in one hand is a handkerchief edged with deep lace. Inserted in the lower part of the frame, and covered with glass, is an interesting appendage to this portrait, a piece of hair cut from the head of Katherine Parr, in the year 1799, when her coffin was opened at Sudely Castle. The hair is auburn and matches exactly with that described in the picture."—*Miss Strickland*.

The castle contains two valuable libraries, one of which was bequeathed by Mr. Jones the mathematician, and father of Sir William Jones, who resided in the castle through the friendship of the 2nd Earl of Macclesfield. It is especially rich in MS. letters of mathematicians of the 17th and beginning of the 18th centys. The observatory of the 1st Earl of Macclesfield had the services of 2 remarkable astronomers, Phelps and Bartlett, the former of whom rose by his talent from being a stable-boy, the latter from being a shepherd.

The records of Shirbourne extend to a very early period. In 1141 the then castle was surrendered to the Empress Maud as the ransom of William Martel, a prisoner. In 1321 the Barons who had entered into an association against the Despenchers met at Shirbourne under Thomas Earl of Lancaster. For taking part in the insurrection under the

same earl, Warine de Lisle, lord of the manor, was hanged at York. In 1377, 51 Edward III., his grandson, another Warine de Lisle, turned the house of Shirbourne into a castle. Through his female descendants it passed successively into the hands of the Beauchamps (who held it by service of 1 bow and 3 arrows without feathers), Talbots, and Quatremaynes, the last of whom, having no children, left it to the child of his servant, Richard Forster, who sold his lands, temp. Henry VIII., to the Chamberlains, of which family a lady defended the castle against the Parliamentarian forces, and surrendered to General Fairfax, 1646. Later it became for a short time the property of the Gage family, and was purchased in the beginning of the last centy. by Thomas Parker, Lord Chancellor (1721) and 1st Earl of Macclesfield.

There is a curious letter of Brunetto Latini, the tutor of Dante, who died in 1294, describing his journey in 2 days from London to Oxford, the rough hills infested by robbers, and his sleeping at Shirbourne Castle, which he says was built by the Earl of Tanqueville, one of the followers of William the Bastard.

The great earthquake of 1755 (which destroyed Lisbon and swallowed up St. Ubes) was remarkably perceptible at Shirbourne. "On Nov. 1, a little after 10 A.M., a very strange motion was perceptible in the water of the moat which surrounds the castle. There was a pretty thick fog, not a breath of air, and the surface of the moat was as smooth as looking-glass, except at one corner, where it flowed in to the shore and retired again successively in a surprising manner. The flux and reflux were quite regular; every flood began gently, its velocity increasing by degrees, until at length it rushed in with great impetuosity  it had attained its full height.

Having remained for a little time stationary, it then retired, ebbing gently at first, but afterwards sinking with great swiftness. At every flux the whole body of water seemed to be thrown violently against the bank; but neither during the flux or reflux did there appear even the least ripple on the other parts of the moat.

"Lord Parker sent a man to the opposite corner of the moat, 25 yds. distant from himself, who could not perceive any motion, but another, who went to the N.E. corner, diagonally opposite, observed it equally with himself. Also, to his great surprise, he found that, when the water rose and sank at either end at the same moment, a pond just below was agitated in the same manner, but the risings and fallings did not occur at the same time as those in the moat."

46 m. *Watlington. Inn*: Hare and Hounds, very good. Pop. 1881. A decayed market-town, situated on a rivulet immediately under the Chiltern Hills.

The old *Market House*, 1644, standing at the corner of four cross-roads, is perhaps the most picturesque building in the county. It is very like that of Ross on the Wye, and with its grey mullions, high pointed gables, and dark arches, is a favourite subject with artists. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from this is the famous agricultural farm of Mr. Banwell, commemorated in a poem by Miss Mitford.

1 m. rt. from Watlington are the ch. and manor-house of Pyrton (H. Hamersley, Esq.). In the parish register is this entry: "1619, John Hampden, of Hampden, Esq., and Mrs. Elizabeth Simeon, daughter of Mr. Edward Simeon, of Pyrton, was married the 24th June, in the 17th year of King James."

46 m. A modern pillar near the road marks the place where John Hampden fell in the skirmish of

Chalgrove Field, on the very spot where he had first mustered the Bucks militia, which he was then commanding. It was on June 18, 1643, that, "seeing a body of royalist troops in the distant plain, he rode forward through the high standing corn to intercept them, and in the first charge received his death-wound, pierced in the shoulder by two carbine balls, while his men, overwhelmed by numbers, were either killed or put to flight. Feeling his coming death, he attempted to fly towards Pyrton, which had been the home of his first wife, whom he had tenderly loved; but the way was cut off, and he was compelled to turn towards Thame. Latterly a doubt has arisen as to the immediate cause of his death, and a belief exists that it was caused by the bursting of a pistol, which shattered his hand in a terrible manner. The monument bears a medallion portrait and an inscription stating how he received his death-wound on that spot while fighting in defence of the free monarchy and ancient liberties of England." $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. are the little village, old ch., and weather-beaten yew-tree of Chalgrove.

50 m. is the long *bridge of Chiselhampton*, which, though much widened and altered, retains the original buttresses of the bridge which was defended against Prince Rupert by the force under Hampden on the morning of Chalgrove Field, a manœuvre for which its extreme length and narrowness peculiarly adapted it, stretching as it does, not only over 2 branches of the river, but over a low-lying strip of meadow-land which is flooded in winter.

53, 1 m. rt., is *Garsington*, a pretty village containing some curious old houses. The ch. contains some good Dec. points. Here Sir Thomas Pope, the founder of Trinity College, built a house as a retreat for the students of his college in case of plague, and here they twice actually took refuge.

55 Cowley. To the rt. are seen the University cricket-grounds.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. are the remains of *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, consisting chiefly of a small desecrated chapel of Trans-Dec. character. The oak rood-screen remains in the interior. This hospital was founded for lepers, in 1126, by Henry I., with the overplus of the money raised for the building of Beaumont palace. The leaden roof was torn off in the civil wars to make bullets. Formerly the fellows of New College performed a service here every Holy Thursday, and afterwards chanted in parts round a neighbouring well called Stockwell.

57 m. OXFORD. (Rte. 15.)

ROUTE 19.

HENLEY TO BURFORD, BY DORCHESTER, NUNEHAM, OXFORD, AND WITNEY. PART OF THE GREAT ROAD FROM LONDON TO CHELTENHAM.

35 m. The London road, on crossing the Thames, enters Oxfordshire at *Henley*. (Rte. 8.) *Inn*: Red Lion, excellent, and much frequented by anglers and oarsmen. The neighbourhood of Henley abounds in beautiful drives and walks. By all means walk (or row)

up the river as far as the boat-house in the grounds of Park Place (p. 76), $\frac{3}{4}$ m. by the towing-path, above the lock and wooden towing-bridge. There is another pretty walk by the towing-path below Henley Bridge, on the rt. bank; that across the fields W. of the road to Reading, S. of Greys Ch., commands one of the best views of Henley, the river, and the grounds of Park Place. The excursion by water from Henley to Maidenhead (Rte. 8) is much to be recommended in fine weather.

[2 m. W. of Henley is *Rotherfield Greys*, so called from the noble family of Grey, of whom John de Grey was Baron of Rotherfield in 1361-87. There is a superb brass to his memory in the chancel of the Ch., which also contains a magnificent monument to Sir Francis Knollys, Treasurer of Queen Elizabeth's Household, and his lady. Their effigies lie under a canopy, supported by pillars of black marble. 7 sons and 6 daughters, with the Countess of Banbury (daughter-in-law), are kneeling beneath, while the Countess is repeated with her husband William Earl of Banbury, in the upper part, kneeling before a desk. There is a fine brass of the last Lord Grey of Rotherfield in full armour, under a canopy.

Close by is the village green, planted, as many are in this neighbourhood, with cherry-trees, of which the public are allowed to gather the fruit on one day only in the year. 1 m. distant, in a picturesque little park filled with old thorn-trees, is the venerable *Greys Court* (Miss Stapylton), of which the former great size may be traced by the marks in the turf. 3 towers of flint and brick still remain, one of which, now used as a pigeon-house, is of considerable size. The remains of the "large court, spayd with brick," mentioned in Camden's 'Britannia,' may also be seen. In one of the towers is a draw-well 300 ft. deep,

resembling that at Carisbrooke, which is worked by 2 donkeys turning within a wheel, which is 25 ft. in diameter. The house, in the Tudor style, has been much modernised. The hall contains some stained glass and portraits of the Fanes. A curious dairy in the grounds is filled with fine old china. Lord Essex, son of the famous Lettice Knollys, once lived here.

W. is *Wyfold Court*, remarkable as possessing the finest wych elms in England, and held by tenure of presenting a rose to the King if he happened to pass a certain road on May-day.]

The road quits Henley by a stately avenue of elms, 1 m. long, called *Fair Mile*, having on it *Turnville Park* (at one time the seat of Lord Lyndhurst), and after an almost continuous ascent of 4 m. surmounts another range of chalk hills to Nettlebed, 5 m.

38 m. is Bix. [4 m. on rt. is *Stonor Park*, in a thickly-wooded wild country. This place gave name to the old Roman Catholic family of Stonor, now enjoying the ancient barony of Camoys, and has for a long time been their seat. The house is an ancient Tudor mansion of brick, containing an old hall with painted windows, and a chapel built of flint in the reigns of Edward II. and III., one of the only three in England which have always remained in the hands of the Roman Catholic Church. (See p. 59.) The Park abounds in beautiful beech-wood.]

40 m. *Nettlebed*. The chalk here reaches an elevation of 820 ft. above the sea. There is an extensive view towards Wallingford, Oxford, and Windsor.

41½ m. *Nuffield Heath*, 757 ft. above the sea. The ch. here is small, but well restored; the chancel was rebuilt by *Ferrey*. The font is cup-shaped, of late 13th cent., with a curious Latin inscription.

1. Ipsden, long the seat of the Reade family.

In *Ipsden Wood* is a well, supposed to be of Roman origin, which obtained a notoriety in April, 1860, from the discovery in it of a living child, which had existed there without food for 2 days and nights, after being abandoned by its mother.

rt. 2 m. *Swincombe House* (Rev. C. E. Ruck Keene), a modern Elizabethan mansion in good taste and a sheltered situation. The ch. has an E. E. chancel, with a very curious Norm. semicircular apse well restored.

rt. *Wallington Park* (T. Carter, Esq.), a handsome brick and stone edifice a century old, long the seat of the Tilson family. The Park is small but beautiful.

46 m. Bensington (pronounced Benson), a large village upon the l. bank of the Thames, which here makes a sudden bend just above Wallingford. Here was an ancient British city, and here a battle was fought 572 between the West Saxons and Britons, in which the place was taken by the former. In 775 the Mercians defeated Cynewulf King of Wessex here. The ch. has some ancient parts. The nave is late Pointed Norm., with Dec. aisles and superstructure. The chancel has some Dec. parts. The font is Norm., and there are 2 brasses. In the hamlet of Fifield is a very ancient manor-house.

2 m. rt., 2 m. Wallingford. (Rte. 3.)

1. 2 m. is *Ewelme*, a large village, watered by a crystal brook. It well deserves a visit on account of its fine ch. and antique almshouse or hospital. The living is attached to the chair of the Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford.

The *Ch.* is a remarkably fine and curious edifice chiefly Perp. Between the chancel and St. John's Chapel, whose walls are diapered with the letters I h s, is the tomb of the foundress of the almshouses

[B. B. & O.]

and church, the Duchess of Suffolk, widow of William de la Pole Duke of Suffolk, who was beheaded at sea off Dover, and granddaughter of Geoffrey Chaucer; it is an altar-tomb bearing her effigy, and "is hardly surpassed in beauty, and certainly not in the extreme excellence of its preservation, by any monument in England. It is one of the three known examples of female effigies decorated with the order of the Garter." — *Skelton*. Beneath the tomb, which is supported on double arches and canopied, is the skeleton effigy of the same lady, and round it are statues of angels curiously feathered, bearing shields, 1475. Close by is an altar-tomb, with brasses, of Thomas Chaucer, her father, son of the poet, and his lady, 1435, "which, from its numerous quarterings, has been an object of curiosity to the most accurate inquirers in heraldry." The wood-screen work, the roof, and a rich tabernacle cover for the font deserve notice. In the churchyard lie the son and grandchildren of Sir Matthew Hale. Attached to the ch. is a very interesting *Almshouse* or *Hospital*, founded by Duchess Alice, with the name of "God's House." The buildings are of brick, with a cloister round a square court, in which some curious wood-work remains. The "palace" or manor of Ewelme was a magnificent building, and was celebrated for 3 historical events—1, Margaret of Anjou was confined here for several years; 2, Henry VIII. spent his honeymoon here with Jane Seymour; 3, it was the house of Prince Rupert during his sojourn in this part of the country:

The neighbouring parish of *Swincombe* contained a monastery of the monks of Bec, which was afterwards turned into a manor-house by Chas. Brandon Duke of Suffolk, husband of Mary Queen Dow. of France. The curious old *Ch. of Botolph* was

a round Anglo-Saxon apse and N. doorway. For further particulars of Swyncombe and Ewelme, see their History by *Napier*, 1858.

In the same direction, further on, are the 3 curious cha. of Brightwell or Britwell, a name characteristic of the clear, sparkling springs which about here gush out of the chalk marls and clays. Brightwell-Baldwin is a very handsome ch., with a highly enriched Perp. tower, and the rest excellent Dec., with some good stained glass. It contains the tombs of the Carletons, who long resided there. *Brightwell Prior* has a small Norm. nave, with an E. E. chancel and Dec. font. Here a nunnery existed for some time, established by a body of nuns of St. Clare, who fled hither from France in the first revolution. The ch. of *Britwell Salome* is still smaller than the others; the nave is Norm., the chancel apparently Dec. Here are 2 brasses.

48 m. *Shillingford*. Beyond this the road crosses the Thame, which a few yards on the l. joins the much larger Isis on its way from Oxford. This is the spot mentioned by Wharton:—

“Whence beauteous Isis and her husband
Thame
With mingled waves for ever flow the
same;”

or, in the more metaphorical language of the *Polyolbion*,—

“Where Isis, Cotteswold’s heir, is lastly
won,
And instantly does wed with Tame, old
Chiltern’s son.”

50 m. *Dorchester*, 9 m. from Oxford, a large agricultural village, once a city, celebrated for its fine old Ch. of *SS. Peter and Paul*. The existing edifice is of great length, 300 ft. and 40 ft. high, of various dates and styles, chiefly transition from E. E. to Dec. Date probably about 1280-1300. The tower is late Perp., probably 1600, and very poor. In the rest of the building the Dec.

style preponderates. In the N. wall are a Norm. door and window; and within the nave, which is Transition Norm., 1180, possibly founded by Bp. Alexander of Lincoln, are 2 circular arches on square piers. The S. aisle is very large, and contains the monument of an abbot; and its porch and an E. Dec. canopied buttress at the S. W. angle are both curious, and are the only part of the building which can be called picturesque. The most remarkable feature, however, is the chancel, lighted by 3 very curious windows, one at the end, 2 at the sides. The E. window, late Dec., is filled for nearly its whole length with tracery, and contains much good stained glass. The sculpture in the tracery of this window represents events in the life of Christ. It is of the age of Edward III. On the S. side, under a large Perp. window, dotted with bits of armorial glass, are 3 sedilia and a double piscina richly carved, under Dec. canopies. At the back of these seats are tiny triangular windows with very beautiful mouldings, filled (20 yrs. ago) with old glass of the 12th cent.

On the N. side is the famous *Jesse Window*, the centre mullion of which represents a genealogical tree set with figures, springing from the loins of the patriarch Jesse, who is on his back below. The lateral tracery represents the branches, and on each is a statuette of one of the “House of David.” The stained glass enters into the original design. It has lately been restored by *Butterfield*.

In the S. aisle are monuments of—1, a cross-legged Knight of the reign of Edward III.; 2, of an armed Knight, with hawberk and bascinet; 3, of a Judge, John de Stonor. The first Bishop, St. Birinus, was buried in the chancel; he is now translated to Winchester. His object in coming here is described in Robert of Gloucester’s ‘Chronicle’:—

"To turne King of Wessex Kynegils to
Christendom,
And that land of Wessex, into this land
he com."

The *Font* is very remarkable, being a Norm. bowl of lead, moulded with 11 figures, supposed to be the apostles (without Judas), raised on a Perp. pedestal of stone. There are several good brasses, one to Abbot Bewforeste, 1516: "Pray Thee give his soul good reste."

Dorchester was once (634) an episcopal see, founded by St. Birinus after the conversion of Cinegils King of the West Saxons. It was then the largest see in England, but was afterwards divided into the bishoprics of Winchester, Salisbury, Bath and Wells, Lichfield, Worcester, and Hereford. In the reign of Rufus, 1092, Remigius removed its seat to Lincoln. This ch. has been partially restored.

Near the ch. are the remains of a *Priory* of Black Monks, founded 1140 by Alexander Bp. of Lincoln, visible in the walls of the Grammar School, and a little N. of it in the foundations of a range of barns.

At the junction of the Thame and Isis "on the S. side of Dorchester is a double embankment called *Dike-hills*, extending in a string to the great bow of the river Isis, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. long, 20 yds. asunder at bottom" (*Camden*); and on the hill on the Berks side of the river is the fine Roman camp of *Sinodum*.

There is an old and still existing belief that no viper will live in the parish of Dorchester.

1 m. N.E. of Dorchester on the Thame road is *Warborough*. The ch. is constructed of chalk, marl, and flint. Here is another *leadon font*, a cylinder of late Norm. or E. E. pattern upon a Perp. stem of stone, like that at Dorchester.

On the opposite or E. bank of the Thame, *Newington* has a large handsome ch. with a spire, a rarity here. The tower and spire are Dec., with

an E. E. base. In the S. wall is a handsome Dec. recess for a tomb.

1 m. 1., on the Abingdon road at Clifton Ferry, upon the low iron-sand cliff which gives its name to that village, is the little *Ch. of Clifton Hampden*. It has some good Dec. parts, and contains a beautiful tomb of its late excellent vicar Mr. Gibbs.

53 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Baldon House*, Sir H. Willoughby, Bt., inherited by him from the Pollards. In the Park are fragments of an E. E. ch.

1. *Nuneham Courtenay* (Geo. G. Harcourt, Esq., M.P.), long the seat of the Harcourt family, and bequeathed by the last Earl to his kinsman the Archbishop of York, father of the present possessor. It is well situated on a wooded height above the Isis, with grounds laid out by *Brown*. The *Park* of 1200 acres abounds in fine trees; within it, on an eminence commanding a good view of the winding river, with Oxford in the distance, is the beautiful *Conduit* of Otho Nicholson (surrounded by his initials O. N.), which formerly stood opposite Carfax ch. at Oxford, and formed one of the chief ornaments of that city, where it was erected 1610. It was removed 1787, and reconstructed here, by Simon Lord Harcourt. The beautiful gardens, which were partly planned by Mason the poet, are generally to be seen on Fridays on application to the gardener. Here are tablets with inscriptions by Mason and Whitehead. The house is not shown, except as a special favour. It contains a collection of paintings, among which are—*A. Caracci*, *Susannah* and the Elders; *Murillo*, 2 *Beggar Boys*; *Gent. Bellini*, a Venetian Doge; *Van Dyke*, *Henrietta Maria*; *Mignard*, Louis XIV., Philip Duc de Vendôme; *Sir J. Reynolds*, Lord Harcourt; the Duchess of Gloucester (Lady Waldegrave) twice, and a beautiful group of the 3 ladies Waldegrave. Here also is a pane of glass from Pope
1. 2

study at Stanton Harcourt, with an inscription written by him in 4 lines with a diamond, recording that he there completed the 5th book of Homer, 1718. "Nuneham is not superb, but so calm, *riant*, and comfortable, so live-at-able, one wakes in a morning on such a whole picture of beauty."—*Walpole*.

The Park, 7 m. below Oxford, is a favourite spot for picnic parties from thence by water, and a portion of the grounds at the water-side are liberally thrown open to visitors. The village of Nuneham, transferred from the neighbourhood of the house by the first Lord Harcourt to the side of the old London road, attracts attention by the neat formality of its pretty thatched cottages. The *Harcourt Arms* is an excellent country Inn.

55 m. *Sandford*. The ch. on the l. contains a very curious bas-relief of the Assumption of the Virgin surrounded by angels (15th cent.). In the fields on the rt. are the Perp. remains of a *Mynchery* (from Minchon and Rhe, Minchon signifying nun, Rhe meadow), founded in Saxon times. The seal of the establishment, a man in a gown, with flowing hair, was found here 1762.

On the banks of the river near Sandford Lasher, which has frequently been fatal to undergraduates inexperienced in boating, is an obelisk recording the fate of Gaisford and Phillimore of Christ Church, drowned here.

55½ m. *Littlemore*. rt. is the chapel, built and long served by the Rev. Dr. Newman.

57 m. on l. is *Iffley*, famed for its Norm. ch. (See Rte. 15.) From the turn of the road here is the first striking view of Oxford, the dome of the Radcliffe, the spires of the Cathedral and St. Mary's, and the towers of Merton and Magdalen, and the Bodleian group rising from the *groves by the river-side*.

"While as with rival pride their towers invade the sky,
Radcliffe and Bodley seem to vie
Which shall deserve the foremost place,—
Or Gothic strength, or Attic grace."
Warton.

58 m. Oxford. (Rte. 15.) This is the most imposing entrance into Oxford, crossing Magdalen Bridge. On the l. is the Botanic Garden, on the rt. Magdalen tower, college, and gardens, while on either side "the stream-like windings of the glorious Street," the well-known High Street, exhibit a succession of colleges and churches which vie with one another in age and beauty.

Leaving Oxford on the W. side (passing the station), the road crosses the Isis, here divided into many streamlets by seven bridges (which give it the name of the Seven Bridge Road), and traverses the meadows, which are subject to frequent overflows of the river, on a raised causeway. The road crosses a strip of Berkshire commencing at *Botley*, and re-enters Oxfordshire about 5 m. from Oxford, near

63¼ m. *Ensham*, a small town, with a large ch. in the mixed style, and a good Dec. cross. There was formerly an important Benedictine abbey here, of which the only remnant is a window in the vicarage garden; among its monks were Edward Rich, father of St. Edmund of Abingdon, Archbishop of Canterbury, and one of his brothers.

1 m. rt. is *Cassington*, whose ch. was built by Geoffrey de Clinton, Chamberlain to Henry II. Part of his original foundation remains in the Norm. arch beneath the tower. This ch. has a fine spire, a chancel of the 12th cent., and contains several brasses. The people of this place were formerly buried at Cumnor. "They crossed the river with their dead at Sommerford mead, where the plank stones are still to be seen by which they passed, and came up the hill singing Psalms, whence

"Songer's Lane." The University Paper-mill is at Cassington.

65½ m. l., 1 m. is *South Leigh*, where is the pulpit in which John Wesley preached his first sermon.

68½ m. *Witney*, a market-town on the Windrush, in a very dreary district (3100 Inhab.). The name signifies "Parliament Isle," from the Saxon Witane, "Island of the wise men," or, "of the Parliament." There is an old proverb which says that "Witney is celebrated for 4 B's, beauty, bread, beer, and blankets;" the last of these has long been a source of profit to the inhabitants (the Witney blankets having a peculiar whiteness, owing, it is said, to the sulphureous properties of the Windrush), but the introduction of machinery for blanket-making in other towns has considerably decreased the prosperity of Witney, to which the deserted hall of the Blanket-makers' Company, built 1721, bears melancholy witness.

The *Ch.* of the Holy Trinity, so conspicuous through its spire from all the country round, is a handsome cross structure, with a very beautiful central tower and lofty spire; at the intersection large transept and small chancel. The tower and chancel are E. E., and the N. transept Dec. with a fine window of 7 lights; the clerestory and W. door are Perp.

The old building, called the *College*, is said to have been built for the use of the Oxford students during the plague which once prevailed there. It belongs to the College of Corpus Christi. There is a market-cross, date 1683. The river Windrush, to which Witney is so much indebted, rises in Gloucestershire, and, entering this county at Tainton, joins the Thames at Newbridge (one of the oldest bridges on the river).

Witney and its neighbourhood are described in the uncomplimentary popular rhymes—

"Hayley, Crawley, Curbridge, and Coggs,
Witney spinners, and Ducklington dogs,
Finstock upon the hill, Fawler down derry,
Beggary Ramsdon, and lousy Chadbury,
Woodstock for Bacon, Bladon for beef,
Handborough for a scurvy knave, and
Combe for a thief."

½ m. from Witney is the ancient mother-church of Coggs (14th cent., said to have been built by the Greys of Rotherfield), which contains a curious altar-tomb, with a recumbent female figure. Near it are the remains of a manor-house of 13th cent.

1¼ m. l. is *Ducklington*, whose ch. contains a remarkable altarpiece. The S. aisle is rich, of the 14th cent., carved in oak. Near this is *Cokethorpe Park* (seat of Walter Strickland, Esq.), containing a dining-room, with fine oak panelling, given by Queen Anne to Simon Lord Harcourt. Here is the celebrated picture of the family of Sir Thomas More, supposed to be by Holbein, and long in the possession of the Lenthalls, first at Besil-leigh, and afterwards at Burford. The scene is a large room, with a quantity of musical instruments, books, and flowers on a table in the corner, and on the wall the family clock, now in the possession of Mr. Waterton of Warton Hall. On the l. is seated Sir John More in his robes as one of the justices of the King's Bench, and by him Sir Thomas in his Chancellor's robes and collar of SS., with a rose pendent before. Behind them is Anne Crisaker, married at 15 to John More, Sir Thomas's son. On the other side of Sir Thomas is John More, "who was little better than an idiot," which indeed he looks. In front are the 3 daughters—Cecilia Heron, sitting with a clasped book in her hand; Margaret Roper, with a book in her lap wide open; and behind them Elizabeth, Mrs. Dancey, standing. On the rt. 4 other figures are added in the costume of James I., which represent the descendants of Anne Crisaker, and there is little doubt (from the arms) that the ex-

trait hanging in their background represents her in her old age. The hands of Sir Thomas, described by Erasmus as so clumsy and rustic, are concealed in this as in all the family pieces which Holbein painted for him. This picture much resembles that in the possession of Mr. Winn of Nostall in Yorkshire, which formerly belonged to Mrs. Roper, and which is an undoubted Holbein.

Among the other pictures here is a beautiful portrait, painted by herself, of Angelica Kauffmann, struggling between the blandishments of music and painting.

2 m. S. *Standlake* has a mixed ch., chiefly of the 13th cent., with an octagonal tower and small spire of the 14th. Near it is an old moated building, called *Gaunt's House*. 1 m. further S. is *New Bridge*, described by Leland as the oldest of all the bridges on the Thames, "lying in low meadows, often overflowed by rage of rain." In the neighbouring hamlet of *Shifford* King Alfred held one of the first English parliaments. In a manuscript in the Cottonian Library it is thus described:—"There sate at Shifford many thanes, many bishops, and many learned men, wise earls and awful knights; there was Earl Elfrick, very learned in the law; and Alfred, England's herdsman, England's darling; he was king of England; he taught them that could hear him how they should live."

6 m. S. of Witney is the small town of *Bampton*, once the residence of Aylmer de Valence Earl of Pembroke, so well known from his beautiful tomb in Westminster Abbey. The remains of his castle (1313) still exist near the ch.; they are now formed into 2 picturesque farm-houses, called Ham Court and Castle Farm. The most perfect part is an upper room, with a fine groined roof, reached by a spiral staircase, and part of a battlemented wall. Antony *Wood* describes it in the time of the

Commonwealth as "a quadrangular building, moated round, with towers at each corner, and a gatehouse of tower-like character on the S. and E. sides."

The handsome cruciform ch. of St. Mary is surmounted by a tall spire, at the corners of which angels occupy the place of pinnacles. "The great antiquity of this church is clearly attested by considerable portions of Norm. architecture observable in various parts of the structure. These remains are, however, so intermingled with architecture of subsequent ages, that in this building alone we have examples of almost every period, from the Conquest to the reign of Geo. III."—*Skelton*. Observe the Dec. W. doorway, the Perp. Easter sepulchre, and a reredos of niches filled with our Saviour and the 12 Apostles, in the N. transept.

Phillips the poet, author of 'The Splendid Shilling' and 'Cyder,' was born here, of whom Dr. Johnson said that "he bore an arrow for time without discontent, and tedious painful maladies without impatience: beloved by all who knew him, but not ambitious to be known."

At *Clanfield*, 2 m. S.W. from Bampton, is a fine ch., of St. Stephen, consisting of a nave, north aisle, chancel, chantry, W. tower, and S. porch.

In this parish, 1½ m. S., is *Radcot Bridge*, which crosses the Thames into Berks, and is celebrated by the defeat of the Earl of Oxford by the insurgent nobles in 1387. (See p. 70.)

1½ m. W. is *Kelmscott*, where is a fine Elizabethan manor-house.

The road, on leaving Witney, runs over high ground, through bleak, dreary, hideous country, without a shrub or a tree to enliven it, and the stone walls, supplying the place of hedges, render its aspect more desolate.

79 m. 3 m. from Witney, an oasis

in this frightful desert, is *Minster Lovel*, where a picturesque ch. and yew-tree, with the ruins of the venerable Priory, overgrown with yellow lichen, stand side by side, romantically situated in a grove of trees washed by the clear and swift-flowing Windrush. This was the ancient seat of the Lovels, built about 1400, and is said to be the scene of Clara Reeve's story of the 'Old English Baron,' where, it will be remembered, the name was Lovel. An incident similar to that related in the story did occur in the case of a Chetwynd, great-grandson of the last of the Lovels, who was murdered on his return from the wars. The estate (which was called only Minster till the reign of Henry IV., when it took the additional name from the family) was given to the abbey of St. Mary of Ivry (the original home of the family before they came over with the Conqueror) by Maud Lovel, in the reign of King John. The ruins consist of the remains of a hall, with a deep moulded and groined Gothic porch and other interesting Perp. details. The adjoining ch., of the same age and style, possesses many beautiful points, and, in a country so strikingly unpicturesque as this, is especially remarkable. It has escaped restoration, and the stains of time blend harmoniously with the remains of colour on the walls, while the original oak seats are left, almost dropping to decay, and a beautiful alabaster monument with an armed effigy whose feet are resting on a dog, overgrown with green mould. It is said that this tomb is that of Francis Lord Lovel, who rose to great power and became Lord Chamberlain in the reign of Richard III., when the blue boar, the badge of the Lovels, was the common English sign. One Collingbourn was executed in this reign for being the author of some verses on the king and his ministers, Sir R. Ratcliffe,

Sir W. Catesby, and Lord Lovel, which began—

"The cat, the rat, and Lovel our dogge,
Ruled all Englonde under an hogge."

This Lord Lovel, hating the house of Lancaster, afterwards joined the impostor Simnel, and was one of his chief confederates at the battle of Stoke, 1487. His fate was never clearly ascertained: some writers say he was slain, others that he endeavoured to escape and was seen in the act of trying to swim his horse across the Trent. A tradition, however, still universally held by the inhabitants of Minster Lovel, tells us that he contrived to escape and secrete himself here, where he was sustained in a vault by the devotion of a female servant. This servant suddenly died without betraying the secret, when Lord Lovel was starved to death, together with the dog which was the faithful associate of his captivity. The body of a man, said to have been his, is declared by Gough to have been discovered in a vault, in rich clothing, seated in a chair, with a table and mass-book before him. The body was entire when the workmen entered, but upon the admission of air soon fell into dust. Thomas Lovel, who espoused the opposite party in the same battle of Stoke, rose to great favour under the Tudors, and was buried at Haliwell, Shoreditch, with the epitaph—

"All ye nuns of Haliwell,
Pray ye both day and night
For the soul of Sir Thomas Lovel,
Whom Harry the 7th made knight."

74 m. rt. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Astal* has a curious old manor-house of Sir R. Jones, judge in the reign of Charles I. Here the Akeman-street crosses the river Windrush. The ch. of St. Nicholas has a recumbent effigy on a stone coffin, said to be that of Alice Corbett, mistress of Henry I. 1 m. N. is *Swinbrook*. "The ch. of St. Mary has a curious small tower, open with an arch to the W.,

and having a window and door in the W. wall of the ch. under this arch. There are some Norm. piers and pointed arches, and some curious windows of later date: the E. window is Perp., a good one of 5 lights. There are some remains of a rood-loft and good wood screens. In this ch. are many singular monumental figures of the Fettyplaces lying on shelves covering one side of the chancel: they seem to be subsequent to the year 1600."—*Rickman.*

The ch. also contains a number of brasses of the Fettyplaces, more ancient than the tombs, and the grave of Hugh Curwen, one of the great promoters of the marriage of Henry VIII. with Anne Boleyn, in favour of which he preached against Friar Peto. He was made Archbishop of Dublin 1555, which dignity he resigned in 1567 in order to become Bishop of Oxford, after which he lived at Swinbrook, where he died Nov. 1568.

1. 2 m. *Norton Brize.* The ch. of St. Brize contains the curious armed effigy of Johnes Daubergne, 1346.

1. 5 m. S. *Black Bourton.* The ch. contains the tomb of Sir Arthur Hopton, 1649, ambassador of Charles I. in Spain; and in the Hungerford chapel several monuments of that great family, and the effigy of Eleanor Hungerford, 1592. W. of this are the churches of *Broadwell*, with a nave, N. and S. aisles, transepts, chancel, and a noble spire; and *Alverscott*, E. E., with a plain Norm. tower.

76 m. *BURFORD.* Pop. 1850. *Inns:* Bird in the Hand, Bird's Nest. A market-town on the Windrush, 18 m. from Oxford and 72 m. from London through High Wycombe.

Here, in 752, "Cuthred of the West Saxons, then tributary to the Mercians, not being able to endure any longer the cruelty and base *exactions* of King Ethelbald, met

him in the open field with an army, and beat him, taking his standard, which was a portraiture of a golden dragon."—*Camden.*

The field of battle is called *Battle Edge* to this day, and the people of Burford used annually to parade the streets with an artificial dragon on Midsummer-eve in memory of the event. A Saxon synod was held here, 705, in presence of the kings Ethelred and Berthwald, when the Abbot Aldhelm was commanded to write a book against the British observance of Easter.

During the civil wars some Cavaliers were confined in the ch., a memorial of which may be seen in the words "Anthony Sedley, 1649, prisner," rudely carved on the font. The famous Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, was born here 1610.

"The town contains many ancient domestic edifices, the doors of which, though plain, are of very good composition, and there are also some fine wood gables with panelling and hanging tracery."

On the banks of the Windrush, which is crossed by an old stone bridge, is the ch. of *St. John the Baptist*, which is large, cruciform, and curious. It has a Norm. central tower and various portions of Norm. and E. E. work adjacent, but the largest part of the ch. is Perp. of various dates and evidently partial rebuilding, a fine Norm. door being preserved at the W. end. There are several large chapels and a remarkably rich S. porch, late Perp., with very beautiful fan-tracery, groining, and excellent details.

There are several fine *monuments*—the principal is to Sir Lawrence Tanfelde, Justice of the King's Bench, 1625, whose only daughter married the great Lord Falkland. One of the principal houses in the town is let to keep this tomb in repair. In the N. aisle is the curious monument of Edmond Harman, his wife, 9 sons, and 7 daugh-

ters, 1569. The S.E. aisle is called Bartholomew's, and the S.W. Silvestre's, from the tombs of those families. In the S. transept is a tomb of Purbeck marble, the inscription for which is to be found on the exterior of a neighbouring window—"Orate pro animabus patris et matris Johannis Leggare de Burford, per quem ista fenestra decoratur." The parvise over the S. porch is used as a muniment-room where the ancient records are kept. There are several piscinæ and the remains of minor altars with the squints. The vestry, which has a fine groined ceiling and was formerly a chapel, has the altar-stone still remaining. In the so-called Burghers' aisle, the place formerly occupied by an altar is perceptible, and there is a provision in the will of one John Spicer, ordering that lights should always be kept burning there.

"In the nave is a stone chapel used as a seat, and another of wood, both good compositions. There is an ancient wooden pulpit and some other good woodwork: there are also some small portions of very ancient stained glass. The roof of the nave has been remarkably rich woodwork, but is now much mutilated and altered. The upper part of the Norm. tower has inside some arches forming a gallery round it. The spire is of Perp. date. There is a fine circular Dec. font, with niches and statues, lined with lead: under part of the ch. is a crypt, used as a bone-house. The plan of this ch. is irregular, but it has so many singularities and beautiful portions that it deserves minute examination."—*Rickman*.

The *Priory* (Charles Greenaway, Esq.) of St. John became the property of the celebrated Speaker Lenthall, to whom it was granted by the Long Parliament, and who lived here many years. It is a very picturesque building. "The front

is good, and a chapel (built by the Speaker), connected by 2 or 3 arches which let the garden appear through, has a pretty effect." It is now suffered to fall into utter decay. The famous *Holbein* of Sir Thomas More and his family, now at Cokethorpe, was formerly here. After the Restoration the Speaker is said to have made his peace with the Government by sending his Vandikes to Lord Clarendon at Cornbury. The inhabitants of Burford had formerly the right of hunting for one day in the year in the royal forest of Wychwood, and till quite lately "the churchwardens, accompanied by many of the inhabitants, used to go in a kind of procession to Cape's Lodge plain, within the borders of the forest, where they chose a *lord* and *lady*, who were generally a boy and girl of Burford. These titular personages formally demanded of one or more of the keepers of the forest (who always attended for the purpose) a brace of the best bucks and a fawn, 'without fee or reward, with their horns and hoofs,' for the use of the town of Burford, to be delivered on due notice. About the first week in August the bucks were sent for, and a venison feast was provided in the town-hall for some hundreds of persons."—*Brewer*. The bucks are still claimed and consumed at a public dinner.

To "take a Burford bait" is a proverbial expression for making a greedy meal.

1 m. S.W. of Burford are St. Kitt's quarries, producing fine stone for building. Hence was taken the stone of which St. Paul's cathedral is built.

Whiteford Chapel, near Burford, is a curious edifice; it has a small bell-niche, and a nave and chancel; the W. door and font are Norm., the nave and chancel mostly Dec., the side windows of one light and E. window with 3 lights. Part of the

nave, at the W. end, is of later date; the pulpit is ancient, with good wood panelling."—*Rickman*.

A little beyond Burford the road enters Gloucestershire.

ROUTE 20.

OXFORD TO ADDLESTROP, BY CHARLBURY AND WYCHWOOD FOREST.—OXFORD, WORCESTER, AND WOLVERHAMPTON RAILWAY.

On leaving Oxford the line is the same with that of the Birmingham Rly. for 2 m., then, turning to the l., it follows the vale of the Evenlode.

1. *Cassington* (see Rte. 19); rt. Yarnon (see Rte. 17).

7½ m. *Handborough Stat.* 1. *Church Handborough*. The ch. of SS. Peter and Paul is of mixed styles, with a good spire, pulpit, and part of a roodloft of the 15th cent., which retains its original gilding and colouring, and is enriched with carved foliage. The inner doorway is Norm., and has a sculpture of St. Peter, with a key in his hand, seated between a lion and a lamb. There is a brass to the memory of Alexander Belsyre, first President of St. John's College, 1576. This is the station for Stonesfield (3 m.), but no conveyance is to be obtained, unless ordered beforehand from Woodstock.

rt. 3 m. *Woodstock*. *Blenheim Park* (see Rte. 17).

1. 10 m. *North Leigh*. The ch. has a Norm. tower, and a fine alabaster tomb with figures. Here a fine Roman pavement was discovered 1813.

1. 11 m. *Wilcote*. The ch. of St. Peter has a Norm. door. The manor-house contains the portrait of its former owner, John Cary, the friend of Evelyn, who left an annual sum of 8l. 10s. to the corporation of Woodstock, to show his gratitude for having been rescued, after being lost for many hours in a fog, by the sound of their curfew-bell.

10 m., rt. 1½ m. *Stonesfield* (about 3 m. from Handborough Stat.), where a fine Roman pavement was found 1711, measuring 35 ft. by 60, and representing Apollo bestriding a Dragon.

The wretched little village, in an exposed situation, consists of a succession of fossil-shops, containing specimens obtained in the neighbourhood by the quarrymen. The sandstone is here intersected by a thin strata of limestone, from which, when quarried, it becomes separated by the frost.

The accumulation of organic remains in this thin slaty limestone is one of the most remarkable phenomena regarding the distribution of the fossils in the oolitic rocks.

"The fissile rock, which occurs here at the base of the Bath oolite, yields, besides zoophytes, shells, crustacea, and fishes characteristic of the oolite sea, plants, insects, reptiles, and mammalia, the spoils of some contemporary land. They were not drifted from distant land, by rivers bringing much and various sediment, clay, sand, and gravel in alternate layers, and mixing fresh-water shells with marine exuviae. On the contrary, only sea-water was here, with zoantharia, echinodermata, crabs, and lobsters, mollusca of every grade—including nautili, belemnites, and ammonites—and

shark's teeth and reptilian bones in considerable quantity.

"The water was not greatly agitated; there are no pebble-beds; there is scarcely a trace of oblique lamination; the bivalve-shells were often buried with the ligaments attached; belemnites are perfect to the point, and nautili appear in little shoals, having the attitude of flotation. Circumstances like these might occur in a shallow sea-lake, penetrated at intervals by moderate swells or gentle tides from the sea, but not exposed to oceanic storms or violent littoral fluctuation. Its constant inhabitants and periodical visitants compose a large population. Starry Zoantharia opened their coloured arms to the light; sea-urchins threatened with their long spines, and drank in the water with their trumpet-like suckers; Terebratulæ, dragging their anchors, lost their place in the society of the corals, and became mixed with scallops and oysters, and other rough monomyarian races. Sometimes, indeed, they were received among Trigonias and Pholadomyæ, those aristocrats of the oolite, or admitted to the closer coteries of the beautiful Nerinæ, Turritellæ, and Neritæ, whose coloured ornaments remain to our day. To match this variety of food we have the military orders, the Ammonite, carnivorous Belemnite, and Nautilus, allied to modern cuttles, and many predaceous shark-like fishes. Nor were turtles wanting to the feast, or giant reptiles to enjoy it — Teleosaurs, Cetiosaurus, Stencosaurs, and Megalosaurus. Some of these monsters lived in the water; others were allured from the land, and waded through the mud, as the Megalosaur; or snatched their prey from the small waves, as the Pterodactyl.

"On these waves, from time to time, floated fragments of bordering plants, whether swept down by inundations, or driven by the wind;—

leaves of ferns, of zamioïd plants, and evergreen coniferous bushes like cypress. The fruits of pines and cypress, and solitary nuts of other trees, are mixed with coleopterous beetles of dry land, and neuropterous insects, with wings expanded, as if in flight from their native reedy streams and pools.

"And to complete this long series of associated life, *land mammalia*, of microscopic dimensions, probably for the most part insectivorous, of *three genera*, have left us their *lower jaws*. Probably no spot in the world has yielded to the palæontologist such a harvest of suggestive phenomena. In her Museum at Stonesfield Nature has preserved specimens of her 'Mesozoic' style, under almost every aspect of adaptation, from the humblest stationary zoophyte to the most agile of quadrupeds, under circumstances which leave no doubt of their meaning.

"There has never yet been taken a complete census of the Stonesfield fossils; nor is the task an easy one,—there being nowhere a complete collection. For many years they have been gathered by inconstant admirers, only to be dispersed; transferred by Oxford men to their country residences, to be buried under sermons, or thrown away by their children. The cabinets of the Bucklandian Museum contain many fine specimens, but not a complete series." — *Professor Phillips in the Oxford Essays*, 1855.

"Many of the plants at Stonesfield are noticed by Sternberg, Brongniart, and Hutton; Sowerby has figured many of the shells; the work of Agassiz may be consulted for the fishes; Dr. Buckland's 'Bridgewater Treatise,' Professor Owen's 'Report,' 1841, and other works of the same author, for the reptiles and mammalian remains." — *Penny Cyclopædia*.

13½ m. Charlbury Stat. (Pop. 1375. Inn: Bell.) The manor was

founded by the Mercian kings, and was given by them to the Bishops of Lincoln, from whom it passed to the abbey of Ensham. The church of St. Mary is partly Norm.; the tower of the 13th cent.; the chancel has a curious Dec. window; the N. aisle has rich E. E. arches; the E. window of the S. aisle is Dec. with the ball-flower in the tracery.

1½ m. S.E. is *Lee Place*, an old mansion of the Lees of Ditchley, built 1640. The ceiling of the great drawing-room was designed by Gibbons.

3 m. N.E. is *Ditchley* (Viscount Dillon). See Rte. 17.

2 m. N.W. *Spilsbury*, one of the ancient manors of Warwick the King-maker, reserved for his widow when the rest of his estates were forfeited, and left by her to her grandson Edward Plantagenet. The *Ch. of All Saints* is interesting from the tombs it contains, viz. that of Sir Henry Lee of Ditchley, 1631, celebrated in the novel of 'Woodstock,' and of George Henry 3rd Earl of Lichfield and his Countess—"the most gallant bridegroom and the most beautiful bride of the court of Charles II." Here also are buried Henry Wilmot and his son, the profligate and witty Earl of Rochester, who, having been led to a sincere repentance through the means of Bp. Burnet, died in the High Lodge of Woodstock Park, July 26, 1680. (See p. 204.)

1. ½ m. *Cornbury* or *Blandford Park* (Lord Churchill), surrounded by fine trees. Here Lord Leicester (Amy Robsart's husband) died, of a poison, it is said, which he meant to have given to his 2nd wife—*Introduction to Kenilworth*. Evelyn stayed here 1664, and described the house as "built in the middle of a sweete parke, walled with a dry wall. The house is of excellent freestone, abounding in that part, a stone that is fine, but never sweats or casts v damp; 'tis of ample dimensions,

has goodly cellars, the paving of the hall admirable for its close laying. We design'd an handsom chapell that was yet wanting, as Mr. May had the stables, which indeed are very faire, having set out the walks in the park and gardens. The lodge is a pretty solitude, and the ponds very convenient; the parke well stored." This is on the borders of *Wychwood Forest*, a wild tract of wood and coppice, intersected with a great variety of green roads and winding paths; the whole is being rapidly enclosed. The name is said by Dr. Silver to be derived from the Wiccii, who inhabited this spot. The forest was enlarged and enclosed with a fence by King John, and was a favourite hunting-ground with many English kings during their temporary residence at Witney. In these woods it is believed that Elizabeth Woodville, widow of Sir John Grey, intercepted Edward IV. while hunting, and, flinging herself at his feet, entreated him to restore the confiscated inheritance of her children; when he was so captivated by her beauty that he broke off his intended match with Bona of Savoy, and made her his queen. The exact scene of the interview is unknown. Some historians think that it was in Whittlebury, not Wychwood Forest, that the meeting took place.

In the hamlet of *Langley*, on the borders of the Forest, was a palace built by King John. In the register of Shipton is an entry made in the reign of James I., of "a French boy from Langley, the court being there."

The woods abound in beautiful wild flowers, among which may be mentioned *Achemilla vulgaris*, *ladies' mantle*; *Aquilegia vulgaris*, *columbine*; *Astragalus glycyphyllos*, *wild licorice*; *Avena elatior*, *tall oat-grass*; *Avena pubescens*, *rough oat-grass*; *Carduus acutis*, *dwarf carline thistle*; *Convallaria maiialis*, *May lily*; *Osmunda lunaria*, *moon-*

wort; *Spiræa filipendula*, *dropwort*; *Thlaspi arvense*, *Penny cress*; *Daphne mezereum*, *spurge olive*; *Anemone pulsatilla*, *pasque flower*; *Lathræa squamaria*, *toothwort*; *Cynoglossum sylvaticum*, *green hound's tongue*; *Helleborus foetidus*, *stinking hellebore*; *Helleborus viridis*, *green hellebore*; *Atropa belladonna*, *deadly nightshade*; *Listera nidus avis*, *bird's-nest orchis*; and *Polypodium calca-reum*, a rare fern.

On leaving Charlbury the railway makes an abrupt bend to the S.W., leaving the forest on the l.

17½ *Ascot (under Wychwood) Stat.* The Ch. of the Holy Trinity is chiefly Norm.

18½ *Shipton (under Wychwood) Stat.* The Ch. of St. Mary is of mixed styles, with a fine E. Eng. W. tower, a richly moulded W. door-

way, and a good Perp. N. porch vaulted. There are some Perp. remains of a monastery adjoining the churchyard. *Shipton Court* (Sir J. Reade) is a fine old Elizabethan mansion.

rt. 3 m. *Sarsden and Chadlington*.

1. 2 m. *Bruern Abbey*, a Cistercian monastery, was founded here 1137. The remains were burnt within the last century. The old fish-ponds still remain.

1. 1 m. *Fifield*. The Ch. of St. John Baptist has an E. E. chancel, tower, spire, and porch. The E. window of 3 lights has flowing tracery and stained glass.

25½ *Chipping Norton Junction*. (See Rte. 17.)

rt. *Kingham*, in early records *Konigs-Ham*.

23. Before reaching *Addlestrop* the line enters Gloucestershire.

INDEX.

ABINGDON.

ABINGDON, situation, history of, Isle of Andersey at, 61; Benedictine abbey of, its legends, history, and buildings, 62; bridge, its foundation, rhymes upon, ch. of St. Nicholas, ch. of St. Helen, brotherhood of the Holy Cross, 63, 64; ancient cross of, anecdote of Bp. Corbet at, Market-house, grammar-school, illustrious natives, garrison during civil wars, former mercantile prosperity, present dullness of, 64, 65; branch railway to, 141.

Adelaide, queen, her burial at Windsor, represented in stained glass, 13; cottage of, 23.

Adderbury, castle, palace of dukes of Buccleugh at, ch., synod held at, residence of Earl of Rochester at, 193.

Agriculture, Berks, 3; Bucks, 88; Oxon, 134.

Aita, 76.

Aichester, Roman town of, 197.

Aldermaston, stat. on Reading and Hungerford Rly., Court-house, its history; ch., tomb of Sir G. Forster at, 46, 47.

Aldworth, road from Swallowfield to, 35; tombs of the De la Beches, yew-tree at, 36, 37, 72.

Alfred, his palace and bath at Wantage, 39; battle of *Æscendune* fought by, 43, 44; abbey of Abingdon ruined by, 62; University of Oxford founded by, 138, 143; residence at Woodstock of, 202; parliament held at Shifford by, 222.

Alfred's Castle, 43.

ASHERIDGE.

Alverescott church, 224.

Ambrosden church, 188.

Amelia, princess, her visit to Stowe, 122.

Amerham, manufactures, ch. and monuments, history, 108.

Anderwyke House, yew-tree at, 99.

Angling, 7, 48, 55, 72, 83.

Anne, queen, her statue at Windsor, 9; her picture by Kneller, 20; her residence in the Upper Lodge, 23; her opinion of Mr. Cherry, 30; water from Chalvey well used by, 98; her statue at University College, 156.

Antiquities, compendium of, Berks, 3; Bucks, 88; Oxon, 134.

Antonio de Dominis, rector of West Ilsley, 58.

Appleton, manor-house, ch., tomb of Sir J. Fettiplace at, 60.

Arboretum, 27.

Ardington, Clarke the antiquary born at, Vernon gallery collected at, 60.

Ardley, Norm. castle at, 108.

Aristotle's Well, near Wolvercote, 184.

Artist, Berks, 7; Bucks, 91; Oxon, 136.

Ascot Race-course, 24.

Ascot under Wychwood, stat. on Oxford and Worcester Rly., ch., 229.

Ashbury, 43.

Ashdown Park, its situation, history, and relics, 43.

Ashendon, tomb of crusader at, battle of, 124.

Asheridge Park, palace of Edmund Earl of Cornwall and monastery of Bonhommes at, 126; verses of Skelton upon, Edw. I. and Elizabeth at, destruction of ancient ch. and cloisters, present mansion of, its

BEAR WOOD

hall, chapel, and pictures, 127.

Ashmole, on Blagrove's legacy at Reading, 33.

Asat, manor-house, ch., and effigy, 223.

Aston, Middle, house of Judge Page at, grave of Thos. Michell at, 192.

Aston, North, ch., seat of Col. Bowles at, 192.

Aston, Steeple, ch., monument of Judge Page at, 192.

Avington, Norm. ch. at, 55.

Aylesbury, place of county election at, ancient history of, ch. of St. Mary, prebendal house, ducks bred at, 113, 114; branch railway to, 127.

Aynho, stat. on London and Birmingham Rly., 192.

B.

Bablock-hythe, ferry of, 188.

Bagley Wood, old traditions of, Dr. Arnold's description of, view of Oxford from, 66; seen from London and Birmingham Rly., 142.

Baldon House, 219.

Bampton, castle of Aymer de Valence, ch. of St. Mary, Philippe the poet a native of, 222.

Barlow, abbot of Bisham, 80.

Barrington, Bishop B. at Moulsham, 36; monuments at Shrivvenham of, house of Viscount B. at Beckett, 42, 43.

Barton, Steeple, ch., 192.

Barton, Westcot, ch., 192.

Basildon, park, pictures at, 36; Lower Basildon ch., 36; situation on river, 72.

Battle Mead, 83.

Baylis, 100.

Baynard's Green, tournaments held at, 198.

Bear Wood, common of, 27.

BEAUCHAMPTON.

park, pictures, ch., almshouses of, 31.
 Beauchampton, manor of the Bennetts, tomb of Sir Simon Bennett at, 129.
 Beaumys Castle, 127.
 Beckett, 42.
 Beckley, excursion from Oxford to, 186; palace of Richard king of the Romans, ch., frescoes at, 187.
 Beenham, Stackhouse vicar of, 47.
 Begbroke ch., 202.
 Belvidere, in Windsor Park, 24.
 Benham Level, manorial custom at, 56.
 Benham Place, 54.
 Bensington, ancient British city at, battle-field, ch. of, 217.
 Berkshire Lady, ballad of, 45.
 Bernwood Forest, 124.
 Berryfield, 117.
 Berrystead House, 127.
 Besils, manor at Little Shefford of, 56; Sir Peter B. gives stone for Abingdon Bridge, 61.
 Besilsleigh, history, old house of the Lenthalls, molecrickets at, 48, 49.
 Bicester, stat. on Oxford and Blechley Rly., name, ch., and priory of St. Edburgh at, 107.
 Binfield, ch. and monuments of, Pope's residence at, 28.
 Binsey, excursion from Oxford to, oratory of St. Frideswide and well of St. Margaret at, 182.
 Birinus, St., baptising king Kyneigils and preaching at Churn Knob, 59; founds the bishopric of, and is buried at Dorchester, 218, 219.
 Bisham, abbey, situation, history of, 80; different periods of erection, traditions of, bath of Princess Elizabeth at, conventual barn, ch. and monuments of, 81.
 Blacknest Gate, 24.
 Black Park, 94.
 Black Pots, 98.
 Blackstone, Sir Wm., buried at Wallingford, 38; his statue at All Souls, Oxford, 156.
 Bladon, 202.

BRADFIELD.

Bledlow, ch., glyde of, 106.
 Blenheim, hints for visitors to, entrance from Woodstock to, 203; park, its trees, lake, and bridge, monumental column of the great Duke of Marlborough, Fair Rosamund's well and bower, Queen Elizabeth's island, High Lodge, death of Earl of Rochester at, manor settled on great Duke, 204; name, Vanbrugh architect of, gardens, temple of Health, cascade, fountain, private garden, 205; exterior of palace, ground-plan, hall, dining-room, saloon, state drawing-room, library, chapel, and monument of great Duke and Duchess, 206; collection of paintings in palace, 206-209; Titian gallery, 209.
 Bletchington House, its staircase and siege, marble found at, 190.
 Blechley, junct. stat., ch. and monuments of, 128.
 Blewberry Down, 59.
 Bloxham ch., 193.
 Boarstall Tower, name, ancient moated gatehouse, ch. and monuments of the Aubreys, &c., former military importance of, 124, 125; excursion from Oxford to, 187.
 Bockhampton, manorial custom at, 56.
 Bookmer manor-house, 78.
 Botany: Bucks, 91; Cumnor, 68; Oxford, 158, 183; Shotover, 185; Stowe Wood, 187; Stokenchurch, 199; Wychwood Forest, 228, 229.
 Botley, 67.
 Boulter's Lock, 85.
 Boundaries: Berks, 1; Bucks, 87; Oxon, 133.
 Bourton, Black, tombs at, 224.
 Bourton, Great, old chapel at, 197.
 Bow Brickhill, 87.
 Boxford, 36.
 Boyne Hill ch., 86.
 Bracknel, village, ch. of, 25.
 Bradfield, St. Andrew's coll., ch. of, road to Aldworth from, 35; distance from Pangbourne to, 72; Excursion from Oxford to, 189.

BUTTERFIELD.

Bradwell Abbey, ruins of, 128.
 Brasses: Berks, 6; Bucks, 90.
 Bray, seen from Great Western Rly., 100; ch., Jesus Hospital at, 29; vicar of, 29, 85, 86.
 Brickhill, Bow, Great, Little, 128.
 Brightwell Baldwin, ch. 218.
 Brightwell Prior, ch., nunnery at, 218.
 Brightwell Salome ch., 218.
 Brill, view from, hunting-lodge of Edward the Confessor at, Henry II. and Henry III. at, importance of during civil wars, pottery made at, 124.
 Bradwell ch., 224.
 Brocas, the, 98.
 Broughton Castle, history of foundation of, pictures and relics, secret meetings held at, present state of, ch. and monuments of, 194-196.
 Bruern Abbey, 229.
 Buckingham, size and inhabitants, ch., shrine of St. Rumbald, goal, grammar-school, Lambards, house of the prebendary of Bucks at, 120.
 Buckland, Dr., Corpus his college, 152; his geological collections at Oxford, 168; his grave at Islip, 187.
 Buckland House, its pictures and relics, 69.
 Bucklebury, manor of, Jack of Newbury at, ch., yew-tree, 48.
 Bucknell ch., 198.
 Bulmershe Court, 22.
 Bulstrode, brass of Dame Margaret at Hedgeley, park, traditions and history of, 102.
 Burghersh, Bishop, his ghost at Fingest, 77.
 Burghfield ch., 45.
 Burford, situation, history, battle-field of, domestic architecture of, 124; ch. and monuments, 224, 225; priory, ancient customs, proverb of, 225.
 Burnham, beeches, abbey at, 100.
 Butterfield, Ballol College chapel by, 173.

CALCOTT.

C.

Calcott Park, 45.
 Camden, on epitaph of Empress Matilda, 13; on Wallingford Castle, 38; on Hooknorton, 212; on Burford, 224.
 Canals: Berks, 3; Oxon, 133.
 Canute, Pusey House given by, 69.
 Carlini, monument of Lady Shelburne by, 104.
 Cassington ch., customs of, University paper-mill at, 220, 221.
 Castles: Berks, 6; Bucks, 90; Oxon, 136.
 Catherine of Aragon, her residence at Easthampstead, 25; at Lambards, 120; her pilgrimage to St. Frideswide, 138.
 Catmore, ch., manor of, 58.
 Catsore, stables of the Duke of Cumberland at, 59.
 Caversham, seen from rly., 32; ch. of St. Peter, history, ancient priory, relics preserved at, bridge to Reading from, duel fought at, civil wars at, residence of South at, 73; park, Queen Anne of Denmark entertained at, Charles I. meeting his children at, 73, 74; Evelyn's description of, destruction by fire of, lock on river at, 74.
 Caversham Warren, botany of, 74.
 Caesar's Camp, 25.
 Cellini, Benevenuto, shield by, 20; cup by, 21.
 Chaddleworth, manorial history of, 57.
 Chadlington, 229.
 Chalfont House, 107.
 Chalfont St. Giles, house of Milton, ch., manor of the Vatche at, 107, 108.
 Chalfont St. Peter's, ch., house of Judge Jeffreys at, 107.
 Chalgrove Field, battle-field, village of, 215.
 Chancellor of University of Oxford, 139.
 Chantry, bust of Nelson by, 20; statue of Dean Cyril Jackson by, 148; bust of Bp. Heber by, 156; sculpture at Magdalen by, 161; original models of in the

CHENIES.

University galleries, 175; monument of Mrs. Boulton at Great Tew by, 211.
 Chapel House, famous inn of, 211.
 Charlbury, stat. on Oxford and Worcester Rly., manor, ch. of, 227, 228.
 Charles I., grave of, 12; walks on Windsor Terrace of, 22; at Charlton, 39; at Newbury, 50, 51; at Great Shefford, 56; at Collens End, 73; at Caversham, 73, 74; at Hambleden, 77; at Maidenhead, 86; at Christ Church, Oxford, 145; at St. John's, Oxford, 175; at Deddington, 191; at Broughton, 195; at Wroxton, 196; at Cropredy, 197; at Ricote, 201; at Enstone, 211.
 Charles II., statue at Windsor of, 18; Star Building of, 18; Long Walk begun by, 23; ride to Bochmer manor of, 78; fishing at Datchet of, 98; concealed at Denham Court, 101; at Latimers, 109; at Merton College, Oxford, 154; in the parks, Oxford, 168; chain presented to Sir Chas. Cottrill by, letters of, 191; secret meetings at Hanwell for the restoration of, 197.
 Charles Edward, prince, concealed at Merton in Oxfordshire, 188.
 Charlotte, princess, her monument at Windsor, 12.
 Charlotte, queen, grave of, 13; walks on Windsor Terrace of, 22; residence of, 23; water of Chalvey Well used by, 98.
 Charlton, 39.
 Charlton-on-Ottmoor, excursion from Oxford to, ch., roodscreen, and May-cross, 187, 188.
 Chastleton, ancient manor-house of, 212.
 Chaucer, connexion with Donnington of, 53; manor of Thos. Chaucer at Kidlington, 190; residence of the poet at Woodstock, 203; tombs of Thos. Chaucer and his daughter the Duchess of Suffolk at Ewelme, 217.
 Cheddington, junct. stat., 127.
 Chenies, tombs of the Rus-

COKETHORPE.

sells, manor-house, Monks' Walk at, 108, 109.
 Cherwell, course of the, 133.
 Chesham, ch., 110.
 Chesham Bois, old ch. of St. Leonard at, 110.
 Chesterton ch., 197.
 Chetwode, priory ch. at, 90, 120.
 Chequers Court, history and portraits at, 112; scenery and neighbourhood of, 113.
 Chievely, 57.
 Chilton, ancient porch, ch. and tomb of Sir J. Croke at, 125.
 Chilton in Berks, 59.
 Chilton Plain, 59.
 Chiltern Hills, 87, 88, 111, 113, 133.
 Chinnor, ch., village of burnt by Prince Rupert, 199.
 Chipping Norton, situation, ch. and monuments, town-hall, ancient doorway at, stat. on Oxford and Worcester Rly., 211; junct. stat. for, 229.
 Chiselhampton, bridge of, skirmish at, 215.
 Chorley Wood, 109.
 Cholsey, monastic barn at, 38.
 Churches: Berks, 6; Bucks, 99; Oxon, 136.
 Churchill, Warren Hastings born at, 211; his reminiscences of, 212.
 Churn Knob, St. Birinus preaching at, 59.
 Clanfield ch., 222.
 Claydon, Middle, stat. on Oxford and Bletchley Rly., house of Sir H. Verney, its staircase and pictures; ch. and monuments at, 132.
 Claydon, Steeple, the Camp Barn at, 132.
 Cleves, Anne of, her residence at Bisham Abbey, 80.
 Clewer, ch., park, 27; penitentiary, 28.
 Cliefden, situation, woods and cliffs, Evelyn's description of, history, two-fold destruction by fire of, 84, 85.
 Clifton Reynes, ch. and oaken effigies at, residence of Lady Austen at, 131.
 Cogges, ch. and manor-house of, 221.
 Cokethorpe park, pictures of More family at, 211; other pictures at, 222.

COLD.

Cold Harbour, 58.
 Colleges, foundation of the, 138, 139; constitution of, 139.
 Coleshill, in Berks, house of Lord Radnor, pictures and traditions of, 70, 71; situation, ch. and monuments, 71.
 Coleshill, in Bucks, 108.
 Collens End, 73.
 Coleys, seat of the Vachells, Edward VI. at, 45.
 Colne, river, 87, 92.
 Commission on the University of Oxford, 139, 140.
 Compton, ch. and manor-house in Vale of White Horse, 42.
 Compton on Berkshire downs, 58.
 Congregation at Oxford, 139.
 Convocation at Oxford, 139.
 Cookham, Rly. stat., 29; ch. and monuments, gemot held at, bridge over Thames at, lock on river, 83.
 Cornbury Park, death of Lord Leicester at, Evelyn's description of, 228.
 Cornwall, Edmund Earl of, 77.
 Country seats: Berks, 7; Bucks, 90.
 Cow Down, 58.
 Cowley, 215.
 Cowper the poet, his letters at Buckland, 69; epitaph at Newport Pagnel by, 129; his house, garden, tame hares, and summer parlour at Olney, 129, 130; his residence at and description of Weston Underwood, 130; his description of Gayhurst, 131.
 Coxwell, Great, abbot's barn at, 70.
 Crawley, ch. of St. Firmin at, its roof-loft, screen, and chancel, 128.
 Crendon, Long, ch. and bells at, 116.
 Creslow Pastures, manor-house and chapel, history and traditions of, 118, 119.
 Cromwell, at Windsor, 24; his aunt Mrs. Dunch, 28; at Beallsleigh, 29; relics at Hampden of, 111; relics at Chequers of, 112; at Dinton, 116; at Magdalen College, 161; soldiers at Broughton of, 195.
Cropredy, stat. on London

DODDERSHALL.

and Birmingham Rly., battle of, 192.
 Cuckhamsley Hills, 59.
 Cuddesden, palace of the Bishops of Oxford at, 185; ch. and monuments, 185, 186; Ecclesiastical Training College, 186.
 Culham College, stat. on London and Birm. Rly., 141.
 Culham Court, 77.
 Cumberland, William duke of, his portrait at Windsor, 18; Ascot races founded by, 25; his stables at Catsgore, 59.
 Cumnor, country seat of abbots of Abingdon at, story of Amy Robsart, ch. and tomb of Antony Forster at, inn and botany of, 67, 68.
 Cymbeline's Mount, 113.

D.

Danesfield, name, situation, woods, Roman Catholic chapel, pictures, and curiosities at, 83, 84.
 Datchet, reminiscences of Falstaff, Isaak Walton, Sir H. Wootton, and Charles II. at, 98.
 Deddington, ch. and monuments, curious house, ancient crypt at, castle, Piers Gaveston seized at, Sir T. Pope born at, 192, 193.
 Denham the poet, lines on the Order of the Garter, 12; on the Thames, 71.
 Denham, Place, ch. and monuments, court, pictures and history of, 101.
 Devil's Highway, 5, 25.
 Devil's Quoits, 189.
 Dialect, Berks, 7.
 Didcot, junct. stat. at, ch., 38.
 Digby, Sir Kenelm, born at Gayhurst, snails imported by, 131.
 Dinton Hermit, 116.
 Dike-hills, 219.
 Ditchley, Evelyn's description of, present state of, collection of paintings at, 209; history of, story of the dog Bevis at, 210; reached from Oxford and Worcester Rly., 228.
 Ditton Park, 98.
 Doddershall Hall, its relics

EASTHAMSTEAD.

and carving, portrait of Lady Saye and Sele, and verses of Pope at, 124.
 Donnington, castle and history of, priory, hospital at, 53.
 Dorchester, ch. of SS. Peter and Paul, architecture, Jesse window and monuments, grave of St. Birinus at, 218; ancient episcopal see of, priory, junction of Thames and Isis near, 219.
 Dorners, monuments of the, at Wing, 119; old manor-house at Eythorpe of, tombs at Quainton of, 124; of Robert Dormer, Earl of Carnarvon, at Jesus college, 171; family seat, pictures and relics of, at Rousham, tombs at Steeple Barton of, 192; tombs at Great Milton of, 199.
 Dorton, chalybeate spa at, 125.
 D'Oyley, Lady, epitaph of, by Quarles, 77.
 D'Oyley, the friend of the Conqueror, Wallingford Castle strengthened by, 37; manor at Chaddlesworth of, 57; grave at Abingdon of, 62; Oxford Castle built by, 137, 180.
 Drayton, ch., alabaster redos at, 61.
 Drayton, lines on the Loddon by, 32; on battle of Radcot Bridge, 70; on Vale of Aylesbury, 117; on the river Ouse at Olney, 130; on the meeting of the Thames and Isis, 218.
 Drayton Beauchamp, Hooker rector of, 125, 126; ch. monuments, and manor of the Cheynes at, 126.
 Dropmore, situation, house built by Lord Grenville at, gardens and pineta, curiosities of, 83, 84.
 Ducklington ch., 221.
 Dumouriez, General, his grave at Henley, 75.
 Dunstan, St., consecrates Abingdon Abbey, 62.

E.

Earley Court, 72, 74.
 Easthamstead, ch. and monuments, ancient royal residence at, 25.

EDLESBOROUGH.

Edlesborough, ch. and monuments, 128.
 Edmund, St. E. of Abingdon, 64, 66, 172.
 Edmund Earl of Cornwall, his connection with Hambleden, 77; his palace, monastery of Bonehommes founded by, at Asheridge, 126; Rewley Abbey at Oxford founded by, 177.
 Edward the Confessor, donation of Windsor to Westminster by, 10; palace at Old Windsor of, 23; birthplace and baptismal font of, 187, 198.
 Edward II. gives Wallingford Castle to Piers Gaveston, 37; founds Oriel College, 151; receiving homage from the Scotch nobles on stained glass in the Bodleian Library, 165; grants Beaumont Palace to the Carmelite Friars, 176.
 Edward III., his birthplace at Windsor, 10; buildings of Castle by, 11; sword and portrait of, 13; paintings of life of, by West, 20; part taken in tournaments by, 22; his portrait at Queen's College, 158.
 Edward IV., St. George's Chapel at Windsor built by, 11; his burial and tomb, 13; his marriage proclaimed at Reading Abbey, 34; at Magdalen College, Oxford, 159.
 Edward VI., portrait of, 19; at Coleys, 45.
 Edward, St., the Martyr, buried at Abingdon, 62.
 Edward the Black Prince, his palace at Risborough, 107; born at Woodstock, 203.
 Elizabeth, queen, walks on Windsor Terrace, 22; hunts in Windsor Park, 23; Mr. Bower preaching before, 30; her ride to Aldworth, 36; at Bisham Abbey, 80; at Bradenham House, 106; at Asheridge, 127; at Christ Church, Oxford, 145; at Magdalen College, 159; Jesus College founded under the patronage of, 171; at Shotover, 185; visit to Sir Julius Caesar of, 191; prisoner at Ricote, 200, 201; confined at Woodstock, 203.

EYTHORPE.

Elizabeth Woodville, queen, her grave at Windsor, 13; her marriage proclaimed at Reading Abbey, 34; her first meeting with Edward IV. in Wychwood Forest, 228.
 Ellensfordsmere, site of Poghley Abbey at, 57.
 Ellesborough ch., 113.
 Elsfield, excursion from Oxford to, 186, 187.
 Emme Brook, 3.
 Emmington ch., 199.
 Enbourne, curious manorial custom at, 54.
 Enburn, river, 3.
 Englefield, manorial history, present mansion, ch. and monuments, 45, 46.
 Ensham, ch., cross, abbey of, 220.
 Enstone, Glant's Stone at, ch. of St. Kenelm, history by Mr. Jordan of, 210.
 Enstone, Neat, famous waterworks at, Evelyn's description of, 210.
 Eton, reached by Great Western Rly., lines of Gray upon, its history and provosts, 95, 96; illustrious students at, quadrangles, hall, provost's lodgings, 96; election hall, election chamber, new buildings, boys' library, chapel and monuments, Barne's Pool, bridge, playing-fields, 97; Montem, speech-day, Election Saturday at, 98.
 Evelyn, on Prince Rupert's lodgings at Windsor, 17; on Toby Rustate, 18; on the Terrace at Windsor, 22; on Aldermaston, 46; on Donnington, 53; on Hungerford, 55; on Caversham Park, 79; on Cliefden, 84; on All Souls College Chapel, 156; on Ditchley, 209; on Enstone Wells, 210; on Cornbury Park, 228.
 Evenlode, course of the, 133.
 Ewelme, situation, ch. and monuments, almshouse, historical associations of, 217.
 Examinations at Oxford, 140.
 Eyoys, 76.
 Eythorpe, old manor-house of the Dormers at, 124.

FULLER.

F.

Fair Mile, 216.
 Falkland, Lord, killed at the battle of Newbury, residence and grave at Great Tew, 210; Burford the birthplace of, 224.
 Farnborough, 59.
 Farnham Royal, manorial tenure, ch., 100.
 Faringdon Road stat., 40; history, castle, ch. and tombs, house besieged in civil wars, battle of Radcot Bridge near, Faringdon Clump, 70.
 Fawley, old manor-house at, history of, ch., carvings, monuments, island on river, 76.
 Fenny Stratford, inns, chapel of St. Martin at, 128.
 Ferrey, ch. and schools at Greys by, 75; ch. at Upton restored by, 95; Hedgerley ch. rebuilt by, Bulstrode House finished by, 102.
 Fifield ch., 229.
 Fingest, palace of Bishops of Lincoln, ghost of Bishop Burghersh at, 77.
 Flaxman, shield of Achilles and wine-cooler at Windsor by, 21; monument of Sir W. Pococke by, 83; tablet to Sir Wm. Jones at St. Mary's, Oxford, by, 155; monument to Sir W. Jones in University College chapel by, 157.
 Fonts: Berks, 6; Bucks, 90.
 Formosa, 84.
 Forster, tomb of Sir George, 46, 47.
 Four Shire Stones, tradition of, 213.
 Foxe, on the worship paid to Henry VI., 14; on Sir John Shorne, 118; on Archbishop Cramer's imprisonment, 150; on the burning of the bishops, 200.
 Fringford ch., 198.
 Fritwell, ancient manor-house at, 192.
 Fuller, on the Vicar of Bray, 29; on Henry VIII. and the Abbot of Reading, 34; on Bishop Goodman, 58; on Buckinghamshire, 58.

FULMER.

- 88; on Amersham martyrs, 109.
 Fulmer, ch., and tomb of Sir Marmaduke Dayrell at, 102.
 Fyfield, tomb of Sir John Golafre, elm-tree, 69.

G.

- Gaddesden, Great, name of, 127.
 Gaddesden, Little, 127.
 Gardens, Bucks, 91.
 Garlington, village, ch., house built by Sir T. Pope at, 215.
 Garston, East, manorial custom of, 56.
 Garter, order of the, its institution, 10; stalls of the knights of the, 11; St. George patron of the, 11; festivities of the, 20; ladies of the, 189, 217.
 Gaunt's House, 222.
 Gaunt, John of, his marriage to Blanche Plantagenet in Reading Abbey, 34; gives a right of fishing to Hungerford, 55.
 Gayhurst, residence of Sir Everard and birth of Sir Kenelm Digby at, Elizabethan manor-house of, Cowper's description of, Pomatium an edible snail found at, 131.
 Geoffrey of Monmouth, burial at Abingdon, 62.
 George I., his portrait at Windsor, 20.
 George II., his portrait at Windsor, 20.
 George III., Royal Tomb-house restored by, 14; walks on Windsor Terrace of, 22; Herne's oak cut down by, 23; his hunting, 107.
 George IV., his portrait at Windsor, 20; his death, 21; his lodge and fishing temple in Windsor Park, 24.
 Gemot held at Cookham, 83.
 Gerard's Cross, common, ch. of, 102.
 Gerbier, Sir Balthazar, portrait at Windsor of, 19; house at Hampstead Marshall built by, 54.
 Gibbons, carving at Windsor by, 18, 20; at Fawley, 76.

HAMPSTEAD.

- Glympton, ch. and monument of Thos. Tesdale at, 209.
 Glyde of Bledlow, 106.
 Godwin, Bishop of Bath and Wells, epitaph on Jane Seymour by, 12; grave at Oakingham of, 26.
 Godstow Nunnery, its remains and history, burial and relics of Fair Rosamund at, 187, 184.
 Golafre, Sir John, trustee for hospital at Abingdon, 63; burial at Fyfield, 66.
 Goring, stat. on Great Western Rly., 36; situation on Thames, best starting-point for water-excursion from, ch., Augustine nunnery at, 71; lock on river, accident at, 72.
 Gregories, recollections of Burke at, 103.
 Greenhill, 72.
 Greenland House, history of during civil wars, 77.
 Grendon Underwood, described in local distich, connexion of Shakespeare with, monuments of Pigotts at, 125.
 Grey, Lady Mary, imprisoned at Chequers, 112.
 Greys, Rotherfield, name, ch. and monuments, village green, court-house, 216.
 Grotto, the, 72.
 Gwynne, Eleanor, her house at Filberts, 9; her gold bellows, 21; her ride to Bockmer manor-house, 78.

H.

- Hagbourne Marsh, 38; ch., village cross, 60.
 Halford, Sir Henry, description of opening the coffin of Charles I., 13.
 Hall Barns, recollections of Waller at, 103, 104.
 Hall Place, 80.
 Hambleden, old manor-house, ch. and monuments, epitaph by Quarles at, St. Thomas of Hereford a native of, 77.
 Hampden, Great, house, history, and relics, 110, 111; ch. and monuments, 111.
 Hampstead Marshall, manorial history, illustrious possessors of, house built

HENLEY.

- for the Queen of Bohemia at, 54.
 Hampstead Norris, 57.
 Hampton Gay, manor-house, 190.
 Hampton Poyle, ch. and effigies at, 190.
 Handborough, stat. on Oxford and Worcester Rly., ch. and monuments, approach to Stonesfield from, 226.
 Hanwell Castle, its history, secret meetings at, ch. of, 196, 197.
 Hanwell ch. in Berks, 60.
 Hardwell Castle, 42.
 Hardwick, 117.
 Hardwick House, history, banks of river at, 72, 73.
 Harleyford, situation, pictures, 79.
 Harpsden, ch. and monuments, court-house, its seven halls, visit of Queen Mary at, 75.
 Hartwell, Louis XVIII. at, staircase, museum, portraits, fossils, sand of, 114, 115.
 Haversham, ch. and tomb of Lady Clinton at, 129.
 Hazeley, Great, ch., ancient effigies at, 199.
 Heads of Houses at Oxford, 140.
 Hearne, on Sunningwell and Bagley Wood, 65; on Brazenose College, 166; on St. Aldate's, 179; on the font of Edward the Confessor, 198.
 Hebdomadal Board and Council, 139.
 Hedgerley, ch. and brasses at, 102.
 Hedsor, situation, house, ch. and monuments, grave of Nath. Hooke, yew-trees, 83.
 Hendred, East, monastery of Jesus of Bethlehem, old manor-house of the Eystons, chapel of St. Amand, relics of Sir Thomas More and Bishop Fisher, ch., former mercantile importance of, 59, 60.
 Henley, lines of Shenstone at, ancient names of, situation, ch. and monuments, library of Dean Aldrich, grave of Richard Jennings, branch railway to, 75; roads to Maidenhead from, bridge, regatta at, 76; Low-

HENRY.

don road at, neighbourhood of, 215, 216.
 Henry I., his marriage at Windsor, 10; buildings of the castle by, 11; founds Reading Abbey, and is buried there, 33; educated at Abingdon Abbey, 62; Beaumont Palace at Oxford built by, 176; zoological garden at Woodstock established by, 202; Alice Corbett mistress of, 223.
 Henry II., residence at Windsor, 10; buildings of the castle by, 11; duel at Reading in presence of, 35; relieves Wallingford Castle, and holds a general council there, 37; his penance on stained glass in Bodleian Library, 165; resides at Beaumont Palace, Oxford, 176; renders Woodstock famous by his love of Fair Rosamund, 202.
 Henry III., buildings at Windsor by, tower of, 11; Domus Regis of, 16; holds a court at Abingdon Abbey, 62; nearly murdered at Woodstock, 202; his palace at Woodstock, 203.
 Henry V., his widow at Wallingford, 38; at Queen's College, Oxford, 148.
 Henry VI., birth at Windsor, 10; grave, worship paid to, 14; his marriage on stained glass in Bodleian Library, 165.
 Henry VII., roof in St. George's Chapel at Windsor erected by, 11; at Magdalen College, requiem sung for, 159; his pall, 168.
 Henry VIII., gateway at Windsor, 11; tomb, 12; tombhouse at Windsor granted to Wolsey by, 14; his hawking and archery in Windsor Park, 23; converts Reading Abbey into a palace, 34; his conduct to the abbot of Reading, 34, 35; patronises Sir John Mason, 64; tradition of his meeting Anne Boleyn at Anderwyke, 99; completes the foundation of Christ Church, Oxford, 144; at Magdalen College, 159; *State sword given by the Pope to, glove of, 170.*

HUNGERFORD.

Herne's Oak, 23.
 Heyford, stat. on London and Birmingham Rly., 190.
 Heyford Warren, old tithe barn at, 192.
 Heythrop Park, ruins of house of Earl of Shrewsbury, Roman Catholic chapel, ch. at, 211.
 High Steward of Oxford University, 139.
 High Wycombe, see Wycombe.
 Hillesdon, ch., 90, 120.
 Hills, Bucks, 87.
 Hinksey, North or Ferry, ch. and monuments, cross, statue of Queen Elizabeth, conduit of Otho Nicholson at, 66.
 Hinksey, South, birthplace of Abp. Piers, Happy Valley, 67.
 History, compendium of: Berks, 4, 5; Bucks, 88, 89; Oxon, 134, 135; city of Oxford, 136, 138; University of Oxford, 138, 139.
 Hitchendon, ch., monuments of the Mountforts, manor-house at, 105.
 Hobby, Sir Thos. and Sir Philip at Bisham, Sir Philip guardian of the Princess Elizabeth, tombs in ch. of; Lady Hobby, her learning, her ghost, 80, 81.
 Hogston, effigy at, 119.
 Holbein, his gate, 23; pictures by, 19, 22, 145, 196, 207, 213, 221, 225.
 Holloway's Villa, 24.
 Holme Park, 32, 74.
 Holton, moated manor-house at, Ireton married at, tradition of Milton at, 201.
 Home Park, Windsor, 22.
 Hooker, Dr. Richard, at Drayton Beauchamp, 125, 126.
 Hook Norton, British camp, ch., manorial custom of, proverb of, 212.
 Horley ch., 197.
 Horton ch., 197.
 Horsepath ch., 185.
 Horton, situation, ch., memorials and traditions of Milton at, 93, 94.
 Hughendon, 105.
 Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, Bodleian Library built by, 165; Bloxham ch. built by, 193.
 Hungerford, rly. stat., fame

JAMES.

among anglers of, horn of John of Gaunt, ch., tomb of Rob. Hungerford, park, excursion to Littlecote from, 55.
 Hurley, site of ancient Lady Place, history, present appearance of, Admiral Kempenfelt at, fossils found at, ch., fragments of priory, 79.
 Hurst, 31.

I.

Ifley, seen from London and Birmingham Rly., 142; excursion from Oxford to, Norman ch. at, history, rectory-house, walk by river to Oxford from, 182; London road near, 220.
 Isley, East, its situation, origin, history, illustrious natives, sheep-market, 58.
 Isley, West, its rectors, Antonio de Dominis, Archbishop of Spalatro; Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester, 58.
 Ipsden, seat of Reads, wood and well, 217.
 Inkpen, effigy of crusader at, 55.
 Irving, Washington, description of Prince James's prison at Windsor by, 17.
 Isis, the course of the, 133.
 Islip, excursion from Oxford to, ch., grave of Dr. Buckland, King Edward Confessor born at, 187; stat. on Oxford to Birmingham Rly., 197.
 Iver, 92.
 Ivinghoe ch., tomb of Grandfather Greybeard and brasses at, 127; nunnery of St. Margaret's at, drive to Edlesborough from, 128.

J.

Jack's Booth, 47.
 James I., portrait of, 20; anecdote of, 85; at Christ Church, Oxford, 145; at Magdalen, 161; his statue over the Schools gate, 165; visits at Hanwell, castle of, 197.
 James II., his picture at Windsor, 20; mass held in royal Tomb-house before,

JARRETT.	LITTLEMORE.	MARSTON.
14; statue at University College, Oxford, mass celebrated before, 156; his infringements on the rights of Magdalen College, 159.	Kingham, 229.	Locke, John, expelled from Christ Church, 150.
Jarrett's Cross, 102.	Kington Lisle, house, blowing stone at, 42.	Lockinge, dell at, 39.
Jericho, part of Oxford called, 184.	Kirtlington, stat. on London and Birmingham Rly., synod at, ch., park of Sir John Dashwood, 190.	Longworth, 69.
Jewell, Bp., at Sunningwell, 65.		Loudwater, rly. stat., manufactories at, 29.
John, King, has a conference with his barons at Wallingford, 37; Great Coxwell granted to abbey of Beaulieu by, 70; his hunting-lodge, 98, 99; his dairy farm at the Vache, 108; his tree, 110; his exchequer, 112; monument of Fair Rosamund said to have been erected by, 183; his palace at Langley, 228.	L.	Lovel, Lord, his manor at Wooburn Deyncourt, 83; house, tomb, and traditions of, at Minster Lovel, 223.
Johnson, Dr., at Gregories, 103; at University College, 157; at Kettel Hall, 172; at Pembroke College, 179; at Osney Abbey, 181; his character of Phillips the poet, 222.	Lady Place, 78, 79.	Lowth, Bishop, on Oxford, 140.
Jones, Inigo, summer-house at Beckett by, 47; his nephew, 43; Coleshill built by, 70; inner quadrangle of St. John's College by, 174; his copy of Palladio's works at Worcester College, 177.	Lambourne, ch., tombs of John Isbury and Sir Thos. and Lady Essex at, environs of, 57.	Lucas Hospital, 26.
Jones, Sir William, his feeling about Oxford, 141; Flaxman's tablet to at St. Mary's, Oxford, 155; monument and picture of at University College, 156; his description of Forest Hill, 201; library collected by his father at Shirborne Castle, 213.	Lambourne, river, course of the, 3; lines on, 53; junction with Thames, 74.	Ludgershall, name, tradition of Fair Rosamund at, 125.
Jourdan's burial-ground, 104.	Langley Marsh, rly. stat., ch., library, park, and pictures, 94.	Luffield, Benedictine abbey at, 123.
Juxon, Abp., vicar of Somerton, 192.	Langley in Wychwood, King John's palace at, 228.	M.
K.	Latton's Place, 59.	Macaulay, Lord, on Lady Place, 78; on Locke's expulsion from Christ Ch., 150; on Magdalen College, 159, 160; on Woodstock, 203.
Kelmscott manor-house, 222.	Latimers, history, pictures, 109, 110.	Madmarston, British camp of, 196.
Kennet, river, 3, 32.	Laud, Archbp., preaches at Hurst, 31; born at Reading, 32; the image of the Virgin at St. Mary's, Oxford, an article in the impeachment of, 154; benefactor of St. John's College, 174.	Maidenhead, stat., 28, 150; rail to High Wycombe from, 29; history, story of the Vicar of Bray at, Charles I. meeting his children at, thicket of, skirmish on bridge of, 85, 86.
Kent, Fair Maid of, dies at Wallingford, 37.	Lavenden ch., 131.	Maldsmorton ch., 120, 121.
Kiddington, manor of Thos. Chaucer, ch., and almshouses at, 190.	Lee Place, 228.	Manor-houses: Berks, 6; Bucks, 90; Oxon, 136.
<i>Kimble, Great, ch., 113.</i>	Leckhampstead, manor of Piers Gaveston at, 57.	Manufactures: Berks, 3; Bucks, 88.
<i>Kimble, Little, ch., 113.</i>	Leigh, North, ch. and Roman pavement at, 226.	Mapledurham, seen from rly., 35; home of Martha and Theresa Blount, history, ancient Elizabethan mansion at, family portraits, ch. and monuments, lock on river, 73.
	Leigh, South, John Wesley's pulpit at, 221.	Marlow, Great, history, ch., portrait of spotted boy, Roman Catholic ch., town-hall, deanery, Shelley's residence at, bridge, proverb of, environs, 81, 82.
	Leighton Buzzard, junct. stat., 128.	Marlow, Little, Benedictine nunnery, ch. and tomb at, 82.
	Leland, on Wallingford Castle, 38; on Abingdon, 62; on Bere Court, 72.	Marlow Road stat., 29.
	Lenthall, manor of the Speaker at Beallsleigh, 67; his birth at Rotherfield Greys, 75.	Marsh Lock, 75.
	Letcombe Regis, 40.	Marston, North, ch. of, Sir John Shorne rector of, his shrine, his story and worship, 117, 118.
	Lewknor ch., 213.	
	Lillies, 117.	
	Linslade Tunnel, 128.	
	Lipscomb's inn at Godstow, 184.	
	Liscombe House, its chapel and pictures, 128.	
	Littlemore ch., 220.	

MARTYRS.

Martyrs, at Windsor, 29; at Newbury, 49; at Wooburn, 82; at Amersham, 108; at Oxford, 155, 173, 174.
 Matilda, Empress, her grave at Reading Abbey, 11; she takes refuge in Wallingford Castle, 17; her escape from Oxford Castle, 180.
 Matsys, Quentin, tomb of King Edward IV. by, 113; picture of the Misers at Windsor, 19.
 Medley, mentioned by Wither, the poet, 181.
 Medmenham Abbey, situation, history, its two orders of Franciscans, character of the second order, the relics of them still remaining, 78, 79.
 Mentmore, house of Baron Rothschild at, 127.
 Merton, ch. and manor-house of, 188.
 Middleton, Stoney, park of Lord Jersey, pictures at, ch., font of Edward the Confessor, 192.
 Milton, manor-house, Roman Catholic chapel at, 61.
 Milton, Great, ch. and monuments of the Dormers at, manor-house, 199.
 Milton, John, the poet, at Horton, 93, 94; at Chalfont St. Giles, 107; his ancestor ranger of Shotover, 185; reputed residence of the ancestors of at Great Milton, 199; connection of Forest Hill and Holton with, 201.
 Milton Keynes, tomb of Lewis Atterbury at, Bishop Atterbury born at, 128.
 Minster Lovell, priory, ch., history and traditions of, 223.
 Mise river, 87.
 Missenden, Great, cottage of Mr. Stephen, ch., abbey, 110.
 Missenden, Little, 110.
 Mitford, Miss, at Swallowfield and Three Mile Cross, 27, 35.
 Molly Mog, 25; her grave, 27.
 Monasteries: Berks, 6; Bucks, 90.
 Monkey Island, 29.
 More, Sir Thomas, pictures and relics of, at East Hen-

OUSE.

dred, 59; picture at Belsisleigh, 68; at Cokethorpe, 221; at Barford Priory, 225.
 Moulsoford, 36.
 Muzzle Hill, 87.

N.

Nettlebed Hill, 133, 216.
 Neville, burial of the Neville family at Bisham, 80.
 New Bridge, 222.
 Newbury, history, illustrious natives of, 48, 49; two battles of, 49-51; present state of, ch., museum, market house, portrait of J. Winchcombe at, environs of, 51, 52.
 Newington ch., 219.
 New Lodge, 28.
 Newport Pagnel, ca., epigraph by Cowper, lacemaking at, 129.
 Newton Longueville, priory and statue of St. Faith at, 128.
 Nobleman's Corner, 83.
 Norton Brize, ch. and effigy, 224.
 Notley Abbey, history and remains of, 116.
 Norreys, mansion and motto of the family at Ockwells, 29; tomb of Sir J. Norreys, 57; seat of the family at Wytham, 67.
 Nuffield Common, 133; ch., 216.
 Nuneham Courtenay, park, conduit, garden, pictures of, 219; Horace Walpole at, excursions from Oxford to, 220.

O.

Ock, river, 2.
 Ockwells, 29.
 Old Street, 59.
 Olney, bridge, ch. of SS. Peter and Paul, house of Cowper the poet, 129; his life at, his garden, tame hares, and summer-parlour, his removal to Weston from, 129, 130.
 Osney, abbey, 66; bells of, 144, 146; relics of, 146.
 Ouse river, its course, 87; its character at Olney, Dreg-

OXFORD.

ton's description of, 130; Cowper's lines on, 131.
 Ousel, river, 87.
 Oxford, history of the city of, 136-138; history and constitution of the university of, 138-141; approach by London and Birmingham Rly. to, rly. stat., inns, entrance from stat. to, general appearance, name, pop., 142; hints for visitors to, foundation of university of, 143; gradual rise of colleges at, 143, 144; Christ Church, Tom gateway, great quadrangle, 144; Mercury, entrance to the hall, hall, royal visitors to, plays acted in, parliament assembled at, portraits contained in, 145; kitchen, cloisters, cathedral, its history and architecture, 146; chapels and monuments in cathedral, shrine of St. Frideswide, sculpture in verger's garden, 147; illustrious persons buried in cathedral, 147, 148; stained glass in, ancient customs of, 148; chapter-house, 148, 149; cloisters, Chaplain's Quad., anatomical theatre, Fell's Buildings, house of Dr. Pusey, Kill-Canon Gate, Peckwater and its reminiscences, 149; library, its pictures, statue of Locke, Dean's garden, Crammer at, Canterbury Quad., Christ Ch. walks, broad walk, 150; college barges, Oriel College, 151; Corpus, 152; Merton, its history and chapel, 152, 153; Mob Quad., treasury, library, inner quadrangle of, 153; former state of, old customs at, cross erected by Jews near, court of Charles II. at, 154; St. Alban Hall, St. Mary Hall, 154; St. Mary's ch., its architecture and monuments, its history, and convocation-house, 154, 155; All Souls, its history, quadrangles, chapel, hall, library, and warden's lodgings, 155, 156; University Coll., its foundation, architecture, statues, and history, the poet Shelley ex. chapel of, Dr. John

OXFORD.

son at, old customs of, 156, 157; Queen's, its architecture and history, buttery, chapel, hall, and ancient customs, 157, 158; Angel Hotel, Magdalen choristers' school, Long Wall st., Holywell ch. and cemetery, Parson's Pleasure, 158; Magdalen, its foundation, 158; ancient hospital of St. John the Baptist at, royal visitors to, stone pulpit of, 159; history of, 159, 160; chapel, quadrangle, emblematic statues in, 161; hall, library, college walks, deer park, 162; fragment of old Magdalen hall, botanical gardens, 162; ch. of St. Peter's in the East, its history and architecture, 162, 163; New College, its foundation, chapel, and monuments, 163; cloisters, audit-room, warden's lodgings, ancient customs, gardens, illustrious members, 164; chapel of St. Catherine, Magdalen Hall, 164; the Schools, 164, 165; Bodleian Library, its history, benefactors, and objects of interest, picture gallery, Arundel marbles, Radcliffe Library, Brazenose, 166; Divinity School, its architecture and history, Convocation-house, theatre, commemoration festivities in, old Clarendon, 167; Geological Museum, mineral collection, pall of King Henry VII., Wadham, its chapel and hall, Parks, 168; New Museum, its architecture, decorations, and object, 168-170; Ashmolean Museum, its natural history and historical collections, 170; Exeter, its chapel and gardens, 170, 171; Jesus, its chapel and library; Lincoln, its history, chapel, library, and rector's lodgings, John Wesley at, 171; All Saints' ch., St. Edmund of Abington at; Trinity, its history, hall, chapel, and garden; *Kettel Hall*, 172; Balliol, its foundation, 172; its chapel, illustrious members, present importance,

PENN.

173; Martyrs' Memorial, Martyrs' Tower, site of the execution of the bishops, 173; imprisonment of the bishops in Bocardo, St. Giles', Radcliffe Infirmary and Observatory, St. John's, its quadrangle, chapel, and history, 174; St. John's gardens, 175; Taylor Buildings and University galleries, sculptures in, original drawings of Raphael and Michael Angelo, paintings in, 175, 176; Beaumont street and palace, 176; Worcester, its library and gardens, Rewley Abbey, University Press, St. Michael's ch., Oxford Union Club, 177; Crown Inn, Shakespeare at; Carfax, its church and history, 178; St. Aldate's street, town-hall, St. Aldate's ch., Pembroke, Dr. Johnson at, Wolsey's almshouses, house of Bishop King, Folly Bridge, 179; Friar Bacon's study, the Bailey, New Inn Hall, Frewen Hall, St. Ebbe's ch., the Grey Friars, the Castle, its tower, crypt, and mound, 180; St. Thomas's ch., ancient walls of the city, Osney Abbey, distinguished natives of Oxford, post-office, 181; best shops in, 182; excursions from, 182-190; rly. to Birmingham from, 190; rly. to Bicester and Bletchley from, 197; rly. to Worcester and Wolverhampton from, 226.

P.

Padbury, skirmish at, 119, 120.
 Padworth manor, Norm. ch. at, 47.
 Pangbourne, stat. on G. W. Rly., name, situation, Bere Court near, Sir J. Davis a native of, his grave, 72.
 Park Place, situation, Druidical temple, cedar at, 76.
 Pastures, Bucks, 88.
 Paternoster baroque, 60.
 Peasemore, manor of Thos. Chaucer, ch., 57.
 Penn Beacon, seat of Earl

QUARRENDON.

Howe, modern ch., Penn Street, 104.
 Penn, William, grave at Ruscombe, 31; grave at Jourdans, 104; at Christ Church, Oxford, 149.
 Perborough Castle, 58.
 Periam, Lady Kliz., her grave at Henley, 75.
 Piccadilly, 113.
 Pictures: Berks, 7; Bucks, 91.
 Poghley Abbey at Ellensfordsmere, 57.
 Pope, epitaph by, 25; his early home at Binfield, 28; at Upton Court, 47; on death of Lord Falkland, 51; adventure going to Oxford, 66; the friend of Martha and Theresa Blount, 73; lines on the river Kennet, 74; lines on the river Loddon, 75; describes the Duke of Buckingham, 85; on Datchet, 98; on Stowe, 121; on Phillip Duke of Wharton, 123; on Magdalen Walks, 162; his tower at and his description of Stanton Harcourt, 188; epitaphs by, 189; visit at Rousham, portrait, letters of, 191.
 Portmeadow, 184, 190.
 Preston Bissett, ch. of, 120.
 Proctors of the University of Oxford, 139.
 Prosperous Farm, 3, 55.
 Pugin, chapel at Danesfield by, 79; Roman Catholic ch. at Marlow by, 82; Magdalen choristers' school by, 158; gate of Magdalen College by, 159.
 Purley Hall, 35, 73.
 Pusey, tenure by a horn, House, agricultural farm, old manorial customs of, 69.
 Q.
 Quinton, fossils at, ch., its screen, brasses, monuments of the Dormers, and Winwood aisle, Doddershall Hall in parish of, 124.
 Quarles, epitaph on Lady D'Oyley by, 77.
 Quarrendon ruins, monuments of the Lees at, Saxon saints connected with, 117.

RADCOT.

R.

- Radcot Bridge, battle of, 70, 222.
 Radley, manorial history of, St. Peter's College at, its chapel and objects, village ch. and tomb of Sir Wm. Stonehouse, 65; seen from London and Birm. Rly., 141.
 Rassia Woods, 76, 79.
 Reading, rly. stat., county gaol, Norm. castle at, history, 32; illustrious natives of, St. Lawrence's ch., St. Mary's ch., Minster-street, the Oracle, 33; Benedictine abbey, its history and remains, the Forbury, grammar-school, county hospital, story of the abbot of Reading, 33, 34; Friary, bridge, duel before Hen. II. at, 35; position on river, 74.
 Red Pits Hill, 76.
 Religious movements at Oxford, 140.
 Reynolds, Sir Joshua, portraits by, 42, 70, 145, 176.
 Richard I. born at Beaumont Palace, Oxford, 176; tournaments at Baynard's Green appointed by, 198.
 Richard II., his leave-taking with his queen Isabella at Windsor, 16; he is reconciled to his nobles at Reading, 84.
 Rickman, on Avington ch., 55; on Welford ch., 56; on Hambleden ch., 77; on High Wycombe ch., 104; on Stewkley, 119; on the Divinity School, Oxford, 167; on Burford ch., 224.
 Risborough, Princes, ch., palace at, 107.
 Risborough, Monks', ch., monastic remains at, 107.
 Ritchings Lodge, 92, 93.
 Rivers: Berks, 2, 3; Bucks, 87; Oxon, 133, 136.
 Rochester, Earl of, his residence at Adderbury, lines improvised by, 193; his death at the High Lodge in Woodstock Park, 204; his grave in Spilsbury ch., 228.
 Rolwright, Little, traditions of, 212.
 Roman roads and camps: [B. B. & O.]

SEITZ.

- Berks, 5; Bucks, 89, 90; Oxon, 135.
 Rosamund, Fair, her Way at Ludgershall, 123; her attendance at St. Peter's ch., Oxford, 143; her education and burial at Godstow, 183; her children, and cross on Godstow Bridge, 184; her bower at Woodstock, 204.
 Rotherfield Greys, situation near Henley, 75; description of, 216.
 Rousham, seat of the Dormers at, its gardens, pictures, and relics, 191; ch., 192.
 Rowland, abbot of Abingdon, resigns his abbey, 62; obtains Cumnor as a reward, 67.
 Ruscombe, house of Penn at, 31.
 S.
 St. Bartholomew's Hospital, 215.
 St. Clement's, a suburb of Oxford, well of St. Edmund, vision of Pope Innocent IV. at, 184.
 St. Kitt's Quarries, 225.
 St. Margaret's, 128.
 Salisbury, earls of, their burial at Bisham Abbey, 80.
 Sandes, Lord, buried at Hambleden, 77.
 Sandford, seen from London and Birm. Rly., 142; ch., Mynchery, Lasher at, 220.
 Sandford near Heyford, cross, grave of Lord Deloraine, manor-house at, 192.
 Sandhurst College, 26.
 Sandford Priory, 52.
 Sandpit Gate, 24.
 Sarsden Stones, 43.
 Sashes, 83.
 Scheemaker, sculpture at Rousham by, 191; monument of Judge Page at Steeple Aston by, 192.
 Scott, Sir Walter, bust of at Windsor, 21; reads 'Lay of Last Minstrel' at Sunninghill, 24; on Wayland Smith's Cave, 42; liberties taken with Cumnor by, 68.
 Scott, the architect, Exeter College chapel by, 170.
 Scutchamfly Knob, 59.
 Seitz, pictures at Daneield by, 82.

SLOUGH.

- Seymour, Queen Jane, her grave at Windsor, 12; her residence, 82; Whaddon Chase her dowry, 132.
 Seymour Court, 82.
 Shakespeare, on Herne's Oak, 23; at Grendon Underwood, 125; his mention of Stony Stratford, 129; at the Crown Inn at Oxford, 178.
 Shaibourne, tomb of Francis Croke at, 55.
 Shaw House, history, present appearance of, 52.
 Sheffield, Great, ch. with round tower, 56.
 Shefford, Little, situation, manor-house of the Beslia, ch., tomb of Sir T. Kettyplace, 56.
 Shenstone, lines by, at Henley, 75.
 Shirbourne Castle, its architecture, pictures, and libraries, 213; records and histories of, 213, 214; earthquake of 1755 at, 214.
 Shifford, King Alfred's parliament at, 222.
 Shillingford, junct. of Thame and Isis at, 218.
 Shiplake, situation, church, death of Grainger, marriage of Tennyson at, lock on river, 74, 75.
 Shipton ch., 190.
 Shipton under Wychwood, stat. on Oxford and Worcester Rly., ch., Court-house, 229.
 Shorne, Sir John, his shrine at Windsor, 14; at North Marston, 117, 118.
 Shotover Hill, excursion from Oxford to, origin of name, its possessors, a Milton ranger of, Queen Elizabeth at, geology of, botany of, Shelley the poet at, 184, 185.
 Shottesbroke, park, ch., and monuments, 30.
 Show Sunday at Oxford, 150.
 Shrivvenham, stat., ch., 42.
 Silchester, amphitheatre at, 47.
 Silwood Park, 24.
 Sinodun Hills, 38, 141, 219.
 Skelton, poet-laureate, lines on burial of Edward IV. by, 13; lines on Katherine by, 127.
 Slough, junct. stat., 94; branch line to Windsor

SNOW.

from, excursion from, Bot-
ham's Inn at, house of Sir
William Herschel at, 95.
Snow Hill, 24.
Somerton, stat. on London
and Birmingham Rly., ch.,
tombs of the Fermors,
ruins of Archbishop Jux-
on's house at, 192.
Sonning, reached from Twy-
ford stat., 32; situation
on Thames, bridge, an-
cient bishopric of, chapel
of St. Sarac at, ch., monu-
ment of Lord Stowell, resi-
dence of Sydney Smith at,
of Lord Stowell, of Miss
Rich, 74.
South, Dr., resides at Cavers-
ham, 73; is vicar of Islip,
187.
Southey, on Lord Falkland,
51; on Sir Benjamin Rud-
yard, 54.
Sparshot, ch., effigies, 40.
Speen, ch., tombs of John
Baptist de Castillon and
his daughter-in-law, monu-
ment of Margravine of
Anspach, 54.
Speenhamland, 48.
Spillsbury, ch., tombs of Sir
Henry Lee and Lord and
Lady Lichfield at, 210,
228; ancient manor of,
grave of Earl of Rochester
at, 228.
Stalls, Berks, 6.
Stanford, 48.
Stanford in the Vale, 70.
Stanton Berry ch., Norman
arch in, 129.
Stanton Harcourt, excu-
sion from Oxford to, ma-
nor-house, its kitchen,
Pope's description of,
Pope's tower, 188; ch. of
St. Michael, Harcourt aisle
and monuments, epitaph
by Congreve at, Devil's
Quoits at, tradition on the
name of, 189.
Stanton St. John's, excu-
sion from Oxford to, 186;
name, ch., Irondon Hill at,
187.
Stegle Aston ch., 192.
Steeple Barton ch., Dormer
tombs at, 192.
Steventon stat., village, 38,
60.
Stewkley, Norman ch. of,
119; reached from Leigh-
ton Buzzard stat., 128.
Stoke Court, 99, 100.

SYLVESTER.

Stoke Poges, ch., monuments
of the Gray family, Stoke
Park, its history; the mo-
dern house, its pictures;
Gray's house at, 99, 100.
Stokenchurch, ch., 198; seat
of the Fanes, botany of,
199.
Stone, lunatic asylum, ch.
of, 115, 116.
Stonesfield, Roman pave-
ment, fossils found at,
Professor Phillips on, 226,
227.
Stony Stratford, cross of
Queen Eleanor at, Edward
V. made prisoner at, Shake-
speare's mention of, 128,
129.
Stonor Park, 216.
Stow Wood, botany of, 187.
Stowe, approach to, the gar-
dens of and their reminis-
cences, Queen's Temple,
Palladian Bridge, 121;
Temple of Friendship,
Gothic Temple, Bourbon
Tower, Temple of Con-
cord and Victory, visit of
the Princess Amelia, 122;
famous sale at, 123.
Stratton Audley, tomb of Sir
John Warren at, 198.
Streatley, origin of name,
situation, Sir Samuel Shep-
herd a native of, neigh-
bouring downs, botany of,
road to Pangbourne from,
72.
Studley Priory, 187.
Sunningwell, ch., grave of
Dean Fell, old customs of,
65.
Surley Hall, 98.
Sutton Courtenay, history,
ch., old manor of abbots
of Abingdon at, 61.
Swalcliffe, ancient camp at,
196.
Swans, on the Thames, 79.
Swanuppers, 78, 79.
Swift, Dean, at Letcombe
Regis, 40; at Bucklebury,
48.
Swinbrook ch., its archi-
tecture and monuments,
223, 224.
Swincombe House, 219.
Swyncombe, monastery and
manor of, ch. of St. Bo-
tolph at, 217, 218.
Sylvester, lines on the river
Lambourne by, 38.

VANDYKE.

T.

Tackley ch., 190.
Tadmorton, ancient camp,
ch., holy well, 196.
Taplow Court, situation,
house and staircase, 85.
Tetworth, 199.
Tew, Great, residence of
Lord Falkland at, Claren-
don's description of, ch.
and effigies, monument of
Mrs. Boulton at, village of,
210, 211.
Thame, name, death of John
Hampden at, ch. and mo-
numents, 199, 200; Pre-
bendal house, grammar-
school at, illustrious na-
tives there, park on site
of ancient abbey, 200.
Thame, river, 87, 133.
Thames, course of, 26; Rte.
on the, 71-86.
Thatcham, stat., ch., 48.
Theale, stat., ch., 45.
Thomas, St. T. of Hereford,
his relics at Windsor, 15;
Hambledon his birth-
place, 77.
Thompson, on Stowe, 121.
Thornborough, barrow with
Roman remains at, 120.
Three Mile Cross, 27, 35.
Tidmarsh, ch., house at, 35,
46, 72.
Tilehurst, tomb of Sir Peter
Vanlore at, 45.
Tingewick ch., 120.
Thornhill, Sir J., paintings
by, 155, 199.
Tombs of Berks, 6; Bucks, 90.
Trumbulla, tombs of the, 25.
Turville park, 216.
Twyford, Bucks, tomb of
crusader and brasses at,
120.
Twyford, rly. stat., Pole-
hampton charity at, 31.

U.

Uffington, ch., 40; castle, 42.
Ufton Court, 47.
Unwell wood, 72.
Upton ch., tomb of Sir W.
Herschell at, 95.

V.

Vandyke, pictures by, 18, 20,
166.

VANLORE.

Vanlore, tomb of Sir Peter, at Tilehurst, 45.
Velvet Lawn, 113.
Verney, family relics and tombs at Claydon, 132.
Vernon, Admiral, his monument at Binfield, 28.
Verrio, his pictures at Windsor, 18, 20; his summer-house at Datchet, 98.
Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, 139.
Views: Berks, 7; Bucks, 90.
Visitor of Oxford University, 139.
Virginia Water, 24.

W.

Waddesdon, name, ch. and tomb of Guy Carleton, 124.
Wallingford Road stat., 36; history, castle, 37, 38; St. Mary's, St. Leonard's, St. Peter's chs., 36.
Walton, ch. and monuments at, 128.
Walpole, Horace, on the statue of Charles II. at Windsor, 18; on Burnham Beeches, 100; on Bulstrode, 102; on Chalfont House, 107; on the visit of Princess Amelia to Stowe, 122; on the Radcliffe Square, Oxford, 166; on Rousham, 191; on Wroxton Abbey, 196; on Nuneham, 220.
Wantage, history, birth of Bishop Butler at, ch. of SS. Peter and Paul, site of Alfred's palace, his birth at, his bath and well, schools, St. Mary's Home at, 39.
Warborough ch., 219.
Wargrave, ferry and rly. bridge, ch., monument of Mr. Day, Wargrave Hill, 75.
Warton, on Shillingford, 218; on first view of Oxford, 220.
Water Eaton, manor-house and chapel, 184.
Waterperry ch., 201.
Watersloot ch., 201.
Water Stratford, disciples of John Mason, ch. and Norm. door at, 123.
Watlington, situation, market-house, agricultural farm at, 214.

WINCHENDON.

Watlington Park, 217.
Wayland Smith's Cave, 42.
Webb, architect of Ashdown Park, 43.
Welford, ch. with round tower at, 56.
Wellington College, 26, 27.
Wendlebury ch., 197.
Wendover, situation, ch., 111, 112.
Wesley, John, a fellow of Lincoln College, 171; his pulpit at South Leigh, 221.
Weston Underwood, residence of Cowper the poet and Mrs. Unwin at, his description of, 130, 131.
Whaddon Chase, Queen Jane Seymour's dowry, visit of Elizabeth to Lord Grey at, birth of Bishop Cox and Browne Willis at, 132.
Wharton, Lord, his residence at Woodburn, and legacy of Bibles, 83.
Wharton, Duke of, his residence at Woodburn, and extravagance, 83; his house at Upper Winchendon, 123.
Wheatley, 186.
Whitchurch, ch. of, 117.
Whitchurch-on-the-Thames, House, 35, 72; village, toll-bridge, ch., lock on river, 72.
Whiteford chapel, 225.
White Hill, 104.
White Horse, 40.
White Knights, 27, 32.
White Leaf Cross, 90, 111.
White Waltham, ch. and manor-house at, 29.
Wick, river, 87.
Wickham, ch., modern house at, 56.
Wigginton, Roman villa at, 193.
Wilcote ch. and manor-house, 226.
William the Conqueror, builds a castle at Windsor, 10; his oak at Cranbourn, 28; visits Abingdon Abbey, 62.
William III., portrait of, 20; in the hunting-field, 30.
William IV., portrait of, 20; death of, 21; Long Walk at Windsor finished by, 23.
Wilton Park, 103.
Winchendon, Lower, House and picture of Lady Wharton, ch. and brasses at, 124.
Winchendon, Upper, name, house and gardens of Philip

WINDSOR.

Duke of Wharton at, brass in ch. of, 123, 124.
Windrush, course of the, 133; at Witney, 221.
Windsor, railway stations, hotels, 8; ch., town-hall, statue of Queen Anne, house of Mrs. Page, Abbot's Pile, house of the Duke of Buckingham, hints for visitors, situation of the castle, alterations made by Wyattville, 10; fragments remaining of the ancient castle, Queen's entrance, public entrance, lower ward, St. George's Chapel, Beaufort Chapel in, Bread Chapel, monument of Princess Charlotte, choir, royal vault, burial of Jane Seymour, Henry VIII., and Chas. I. in, 12; royal vault, tomb of Edward IV., Rutland Chapel, stained windows, Hastings Chapel, chapter-house, 13; Royal Tomb-house, its history, Lincoln Chapel, grave of Henry VI., worship paid to him, 14; grave of Charles Brandon, Oxenbridge Chapel, monument of the Duchess of Gloucester, Bray Chapel, relics formerly preserved at St. George's, Deans' Cloisters, 15; Anne Boleyn's lodgings, Canons' Cloisters, Hundred Steps, Domus Regis of Henry III., Deanery, its historical recollections, Winchester Tower, 16; Round Tower, its history and garden, Norman gate, Upper Ward, 16, 17; statue of Charles II., entrance to the State apartments, Queen's Audience Chamber, 18; Vandyke Room, Queen's State Drawing-room, Queen's Closet, King's Closet, King's Drawing-room, Council Chamber, 18, 19; Vestibule, Grand Staircase, Grand Vestibule, Grand Dining-room, Ball-room, St. George's Hall, 20; Queen's Presence Chamber, Private Apartments of the Queen, Queen's Drawing-room, Dining-room, Armoury, Royal Private Lib-

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brary, collection of drawings of the old masters in, 21, 22; Terrace, its reminiscences, the Slopes, the Home Park, 22; Herne's Oak, Frogmore, 23.
 Windsor Great Park, size, history, Long Walk in, 23; Snow Hill, Cumberland Lodge, Royal Lodge, Heronry, Virginia Water, Chinese fishing temple, ruins, hermitage, Belvidere, cascade in, 24.
 Windsor, Old, 21.
 Wing, its manor forfeited by the Hampdens, its ch. and monuments, 119.
 Winkfield, 28.
 Winslow, 119; stat. on Bletchley and Oxford Rly. at, 132.
 Witney, name, proverb of, manufactures at, ch. of Holy Trinity, college, river Windrush at, popular description of, 221.
 Wittenham, Little, tombs of the Dunches at, 38.
 Wittenham, Long, ch., font, 38.
 Wokingham, inn celebrated by ballad of Molly Mog, 25; town-hall, ch., ancient customs of, 26.
 Wolsey, Cardinal, royal Tomb-house at Windsor granted to, 14; Christ Church, Oxford, founded by, 144; at Magdalen College, Oxford, 139; spire of Bloxham ch.,

WREN.

said to have been built by, 193.
 Wolvercote, Memphric devoured by wolves at, ch. and tomb of Sir J. Walter, Aristotle's Well, 182.
 Wolverton stat., 128; expedition to Olney from, 129.
 Wooburn, palace of Bps. of Lincoln, history, martyrdoms at, residence of the good Lord and bad Duke of Wharton, present condition, 82, 83; ch. and monuments, 83.
 Wooburn Deyncourt, manor of Francis Lord Lovel, 83.
 Woodhay, West, House, ch., tomb of Sir B. Rudyard at, 54, 55.
 Woodstock, its manufactures, ancient royal palace at, Fair Rosamund at, Henry III. at, royal princes born at, Princess Elizabeth confined at, Merry Devil of, ancient art at, present appearance of, poet Chaucer at, ch., entrance to Bleunheim from, 202, 203.
 Woodstock Road stat., 190.
 Woolley Park, 57.
 Wootton-Underwood, ch. and brasses, house of the Marquis of Chandos at, 124.
 Wormenhall, ch. and brasses, two bishops born at, 125.
 Wren, Fawley Court built by, 76; arcade at Eton by, 96; Queen's College by,

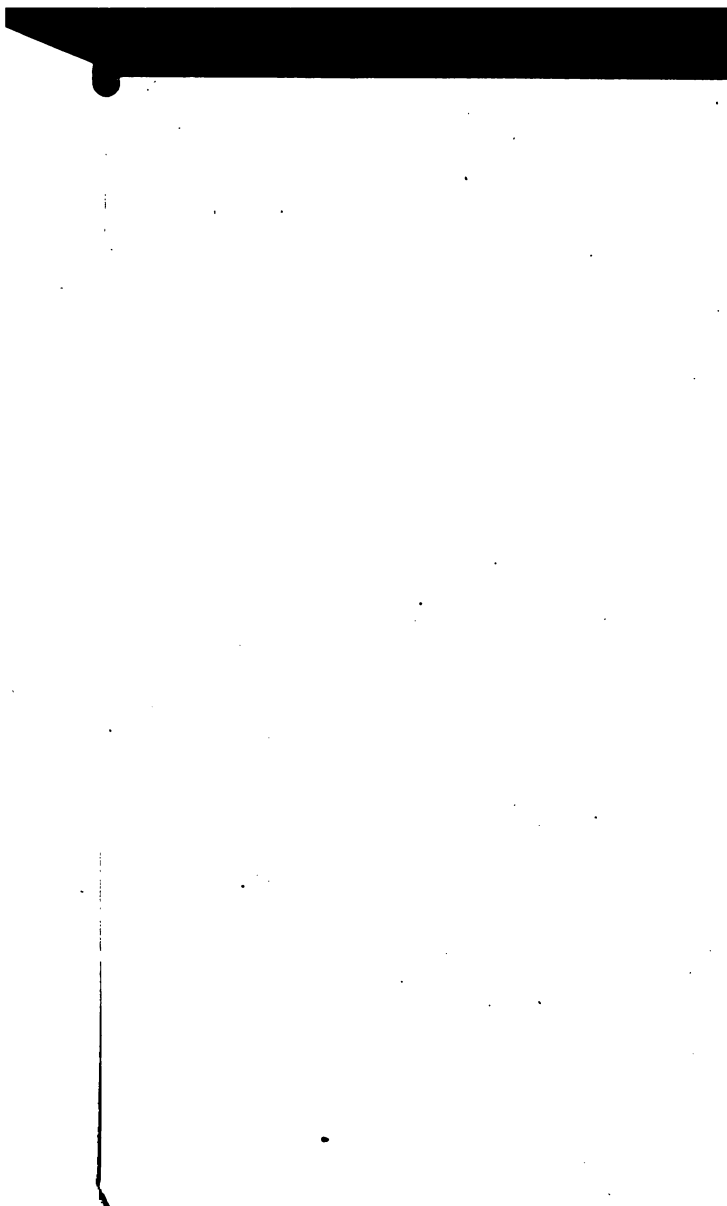
YORK.

158; theatre at Oxford by, 167.
 Wroxton Abbey, its history and present appearance, pictures and relics at, ch. and monuments at, 196.
 Wycombe, High, situation, manufactures, ch., grammar school, 104, 105; abbey, members for, 105.
 Wycombe, West, village, caves, ch., mausoleum at, Park, 105, 106.
 Wychwood Forest, historical recollections of, 228; botany of, 228, 229.
 Wyfold Court, wych elms at, tenure of, 216.
 Wykeham, William of, architect of Windsor for Edward III., 10, 22; New College founded by, 163; chancel of Adderbury ch. built by, 193; Broughton Castle purchased by, 195; tomb of great-nephew of at Broughton, 196.

Y.

Yarnton, ch. and monuments, cross, manor-house, 201; mammalian remains discovered at, 202.
 Yattendon, tomb of Sir J. Norreys, 57; grave of Carte the historian at, 58.
 Yewden, yew hedge at, 77.
 York Town, 26.

THE END.





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Harold, 1
People, 7.
England, 20.
by, 8.
Language,

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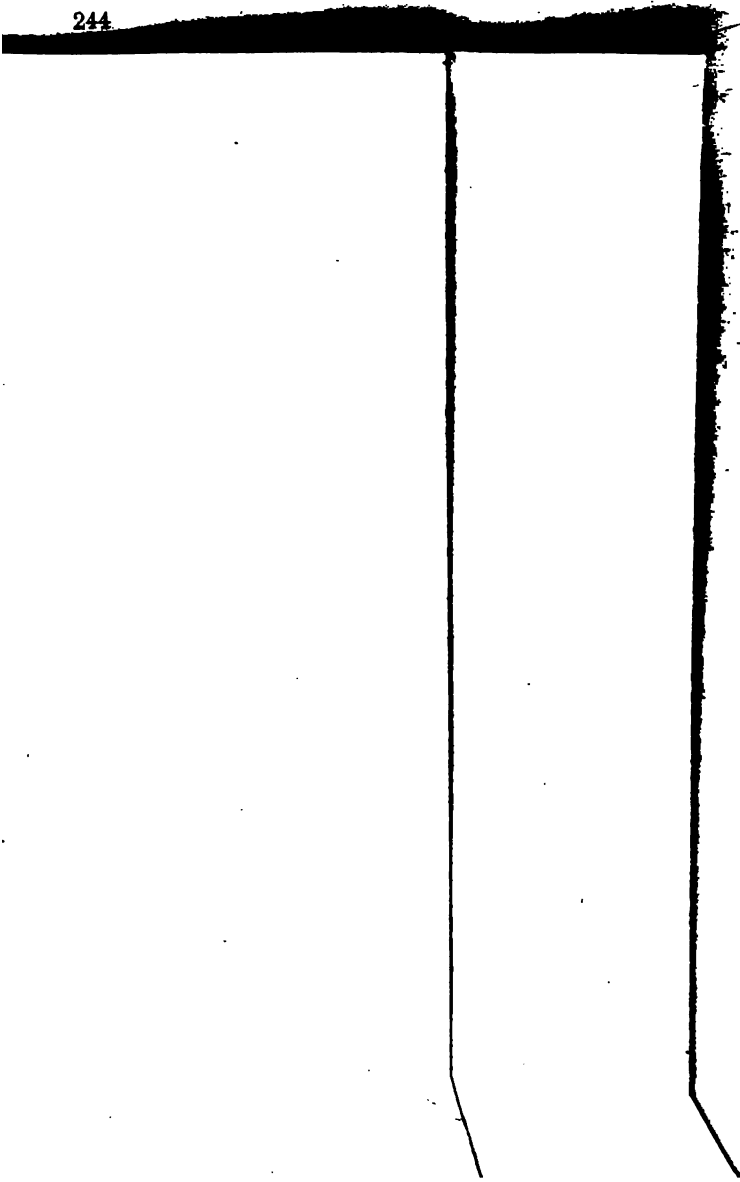
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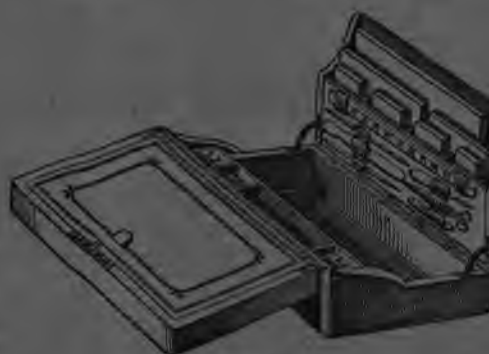
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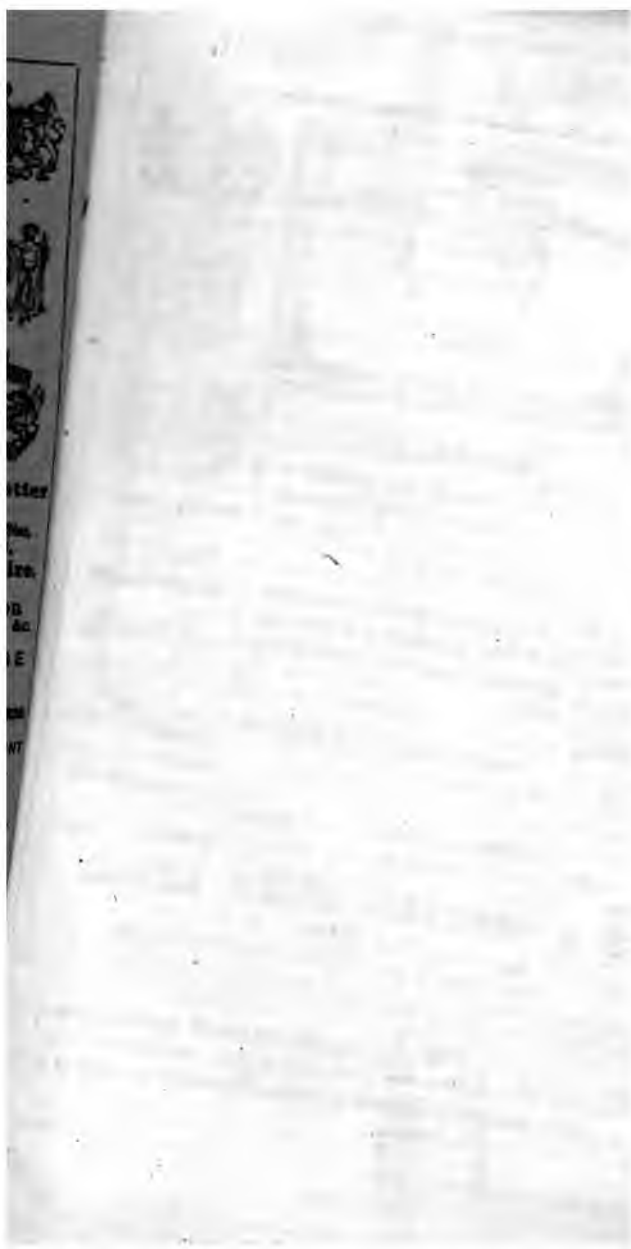
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